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International Court of Justice

H0940-0002

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

6 June 1946.

COMMISSIONERS:

Colonel A.M.S. Neave
Mr. Rasumov

(THE COMMISSION CONVENED AT 1000 HOURS.)

THE SS

DIRECT EXAMINATION RESUMED.

DIETER WISLICENY, a witness, took the stand and testified as follows:

COLONEL NEAVE: Does the witness understand he is still under oath?

THE WITNESS: Yes.

BY DR. PELKMAN:

Q Witness, what circle or group of persons within the camp knew of the destruction or the murders in the camp and who was in actual charge or who performed these liquidations?

A I cannot say that from my own experience. I can only tell the court what Eichmann told me about this. Eichmann told me that within the camp the number of persons that were in charge or were concerned with the actual killing would be kept as small as possible, in order to keep the whole thing secret.

COLONEL NEAVE: Do you think we ought to be hearing what Eichmann told him? Ought we not to be hearing what he saw himself?

DR. PELKMAN: He knows these things through Eichmann. I believe

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it should be admitted for evidence in such an important case what he heard through such an important person. Of course if Eichmann could be here I would ask him but Eichmann is dead.

COLONEL NEAVE: Yes, but at the same time I think in general we should hear what the witness knew about from his personal experience. If you bear that point in mind you can go on.

BY DR. PELKMAN:

Q. What experience did you have concerning this. Was the action kept secret or did the information leak out through circles of the SS?

A. I found out through my brother and from relatives, most of whom served in the Waffen SS, that this Action Eichmann was unknown in their circles. I was asked many times by my brother and other members of the SS and Waffen SS why Jews were being deported to the eastern countries and what was happening to them there. I told them that the Jews were being settled in Ghettoes in the East, due to the fact that I had made a special oath to Eichmann. I also had the impression that this was the general opinion concerning the transports to the East.

Q Of the persons that were in the administration connected with the Eichmann Action how many of them belonged to the SS?

A The committee of Eichmann consisted of members of the SS as well as members of the Gestapo who did not belong to the SS. I cannot give the percentage but I would say that quite a large number, especially lower employees, in the Eichmann Committee, or working with Eichmann, were not members of the SS.

Q Did these members of the Eichmann office that did not belong to the SS also wear the black uniform?

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A The black uniform was not worn during the war; they wore the gray uniform of the SS with the SD insignia.

Q But during the war the SS men did wear that gray uniform, didn't they?

A Yes, but there always was a difference between the so-called SS men and the so-called uniform wearers.

Q That was a difference of thought or idea but not a visual difference, was it not?

A No, there was no visual difference. It was just a difference of idea or thought concerning it.

DR. PELKMAN: I have no further questions.

COLONEL NEAVE: Thank you, Dr. Pelkman.

DR. WEISGERBER (Defense Counsel for the Gestapo)

COLONEL NEAVE: I understand the SD also wish to ask questions.

DR. GAWLIK: The Gestapo are probably closer connected with the questions of the SS and therefore I think it advisable that I question the witness after the Gestapo get through.

COLONEL NEAVE: Have you many questions, Dr. Weisgerber?

DR. WEISGERBER: About nine or ten questions.

COLONEL NEAVE: Will you first of all give us a short statement of what you intend to bring out in the examination?

DR. WEISGERBER: I want to bring out from this witness the amount of participation of the Gestapo in this Action Eichmann.

COLONEL NEAVE: Is that all?

DR. WEISGERBER: Yes.

COLONEL NEAVE: All right, go on.

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THE GESTAPO

BY DR. WEISGERBER:

Q In the individual commands of the Security Police were there any special commands or any special groups concerning Action Eichmann?

A Yes, Eichmann had the special commandos or groups which he sent to the individual unit commanders in the Occupied Territories, especially in the Eastern territories, France, or Southeastern territories. These commands or groups were only under the Commanders of the Security Police as far as disciplinary and administrative matters were concerned but received all other orders directly from him.

Q In other words, these special groups, these special task forces, were put in by Eichmann directly?

A Yes, of course with the permission of Mueller, but Eichmann was the person who chose these men, gave them their orders directly and received direct answers and reports from these men.

Q Could the Chief of the Security Police give these special task groups any orders?

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: I don't think that the translation is exactly accurate. You are saying "Chief" which indicates the Chief. What he means are the Regional Chiefs or Commanders. I believe "Befehlshaber" in this case meant the Regional Chief.

DR. WEISGERBER: Of course there were several Befehlshaber of the Security Police in the Eastern territories.

COLONEL NEAVE: Go on, please.

Q My question was, Could the Regional Chief of the Security Police give any direct orders to members of the special task forces or special commandos?

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A Due to the fact that these members of these task forces or special groups had received or were relying upon direct orders from Mueller, it was impossible for the individual Regional Chiefs to give them any kind of operational orders.

Q To what extent did the Gestapo Offices in the Reich have any idea concerning the settlement of the Jews in the East?

A I do not quite understand that question. Do you mean, under the term "Settlement in the East" the actual reasons behind the Action Eichmann, or what?

Q That was the first part of my question. My second part is, to what extent did the Gestapo Offices know about the extermination policy of Action Eichmann?

A I wish to answer to the first part of the question that the Gestapo men in the lower offices, (lower Gestapo officials) had knowledge of this settlement of the Jews in the East since Jews from all parts of Germany were transported to the East. The second part of the question I believe I answered yesterday when I said that Eichmann only told a very limited circle of people concerning the actual "Endloesung" (Final Solution) under special secretive measures. Of course I cannot say to what extent Eichmann informed the higher State Police officials or the higher SS and Police Leaders. The way he informed me I do not know anything about that.

Q Who had the permission to inform persons not actually connected with the "Final Solution" concerning this task, this mission?

A I cannot say for sure but I believe Eichmann and maybe Mueller. We of course did not have the permission to tell anybody else about it.

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Q Of course all other persons, even if they did not belong to the actual mission or the actual task, "Final Solution" would be required to keep this measure highly secret?

A I suppose that Eichmann required the same requirements of the other persons he told about this, the real measure, the same way that he required it of me.

Q General information to the Gestapo concerning what was the actual task, the actual reason behind this "Final Solution" was never given - that is, the Gestapo was never informed of that?

A As far as I know, no, because, as I said yesterday, nothing could be put in writing concerning this.

Q Did members of the Gestapo or Secret State Police accompany any of these transports to the camps in the East?

A As far as I know they were only escorted by escorting troops of the Police.

DR. WEISGERBER: I have no further questions.

COLONEL NEAVE: Thank you, Dr. Weisgerber.

THE S.D.

DR. GAWLIK (Defense Counsel for the SD): I want to prove that the SD was not responsible for the mass extermination of the Jews and that the Jewish Committee of the SD did not help in the destruction or extermination of the Jews but on the contrary it had worked against this extermination. The evidence is concerning Trial Brief of the Gestapo and SD, VII (A) of the German Edition page 53 Indictment, page 1758 of the German transcript. I will limit my evidence especially to the action of the Jewish Committee with the SD Main Office for the time of 1934 to 1937 and to the question of whether the Jewish Committee of the SD had in any way aided or even made possible the Action Eichmann.

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COLONEL NEAVE: One moment. Will you tell us what qualifications the witness has for talking about the Jewish Committee of the SD?

DR. GAWLIK: I want to prove that in my first question. He was active in this Jewish Committee.

COLONEL NEAVE: All right, go on.

BY DR. GAWLIK:

Q With the first questions I want to prove that the witness has enough information to give this evidence. When were you working with the SD?

A I joined the SD on the 5th of July 1934 and stayed with them until 1940, when I was transferred to Amt IV.

Q In what offices of the SD were you active?

A From 1934 until the Spring of 1937 I belonged to the Free Mason Committee, which belonged to Department II (1) of the SD. From the Spring of 1937 until the Fall of 1937, I was Adviser with the Jewish Committee which also belonged to Amt II (1) of the SD Main Office. In November 1937 I was transferred to the SD Group in Danzig and there I stayed until my transfer to Amt IV Eichmann.

Q Were you not at first active in the SD Central Office in 1934?

A In 1934 in the SD Security Office the commission or department that took care of the Free Mason question was called Amt V. In 1935, or it might have been the beginning of 1936, the SD Central Office was changed to the Main Office and the various departments received different designations.

Q The work of the Free Mason Committee might be termed as part of the Conspiracy and therefore I will ask a few questions concerning that also. Tell us in very short terms the work or the task done by this group concerning the Free Mason activity.

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A The main duty of this office was a list of all Free Masons within Germany.

Q What basis was used for this list?

A The main lists were received through the official membership lists of the Free Mason Lodges, which could be bought at that time at any book store, or through the police.

Q In other words, these membership lists were available to the public?

A They were obtainable without any difficulty.

Q What were the further activities in the Free Mason Committee.

A Starting in 1933, perhaps partly through pressure of the Party, Free Mason Lodges started to dissolve.

COLONEL NEAVE: Dr. Gawlik, has the Prosecution accused the SD of persecuting Free Masons? If so, where does it say so.

DR. GAWLIK: It was supposed to be the duty of the SD to eliminate or take out of public life all those persons who were against an Aggressive War or against Crimes Against The Peace, and under that also the Free Masons might be considered.

COLONEL NEAVE: Yes but you said, in bringing up this question of Free Masons, that it might be termed as part of the Conspiracy. I want to know whether anybody has actually charged the SD with persecuting Free Masons as distinct from Jews, which was the subject I thought we were dealing with.

DR. GAWLIK: I do not know, but if the Prosecution states that it does not see any criminal action on the part of this Committee on Free Mason affairs, then I will not have to finish my questioning.

COLONEL NEAVE: That is not my question. I am asking you whether the Prosecution charged the SD with such. It is only with the idea of saving time that I am raising this question.

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DR. GAWLIK: (Reading) ....A check of the trustworthiness of State officials or state employees of the measure of complete surrenders to the Nazi point of view and ~~Hitlers~~ Hitler's leadership.

COLONEL NEAVE: I cannot see that this subject comes within the statements that you have made a short time ago as to what you were going to bring up through this witness.

DR. GAWLIK: I only made it because the witness just mentioned the Free Masons.

COLONEL NEAVE: Well I think you should limit that to one more question and then continue on your original theme.

DR. GAWLIK: I ~~xx~~ will ask one further question concerning this point.

BY DR. GAWLIK:

Q Was it the duty of this Free Mason Committee to take any persons out of public life that would oppose an Aggressive War or a Crime Against the Peace?

A I can only say concerning this that all I know is that if the Nazi Party (NSDAP) wanted to have some information about a person who wanted to enter the National Socialist Party, then we gave it to them because the NSDAP had certain rules and regulations they were following concerning the admittance of such former Free Masons.

Q Can you answer this question Yes or No? The question is whether persons would be taken out of public life that would oppose War Crimes or Crimes Against the Peace.

A I cannot answer this question Yes or No. All I can say is that in 1934 I did not know that an aggressive war was planned and all I could say was that the Party did not want certain former Free Masons within its rolls.

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COLONEL NEAVE: Let us go on to your original point.

Q. When was the Jewish Committee organized?

A The Jewish Committee with the SD Main Office was organized in 1936.

Q Up to that time were any Jewish questions discussed by the SD?

A The Jewish question belonged to the Department Free Mason until 1936, but no actual activity concerning this phase was actually done.

Q How large or what was the number of persons on this Committee?

A This committee was very small. When I entered it there were eight persons in it.

Q What was the organization of this committee?

A The committee had three basic fields which were themselves adjusted to the inner political and economic situation of the Jews. The fields were: the Zionist question, the Assimilation of the Jews, and the Orthodox Jews.

COLONEL NEAVE: Can he explain what he means by "assimilation."

A. Under "Assimilation" we understood people that lived as citizens and considered themselves citizens of the country they lived in. Those were the three committees or the three groups within the committee.

Q Tell us very briefly the activity or the duty of the Jewish Committee within the SD Main Office.

A As the grouping of this committee already shows, the Jewish matter was a purely political matter. We were interested in the inner political actions of the Jews and not in their connection with either the German State or any other State. This committee was not concerned with the Jewish question as it was brought out in Streicher's "Der Stuermer" but in a pure matter such as of a group or nationality. It was the duty of this committee to study this in order to get away from the purely propaganda matters of the Jewish question.

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Q You go too far from the point. Is it true that the activities of this committee was to receive reports and pass on reports?

A Yes.

Q Where did they get these reports or the material for these reports?

A From two sources. These sources were the lower SD Offices, that is the Unterabschnitte and Oberabschnitte of the SD and also from certain trustworthy confidence men that we had connected with the SD Main Office directly.

Q Were these confidence men members of the SD only or also members of other organizations?

A No they did not belong. Not all of our confidence men belonged to the SD. In fact most of our important and main confidence men did not belong to the SD, the SA, the SS, or any such organization.

Q Did any members or people opposed to the NSDAP belong to your confidence men?

A I cannot answer this question directly. However, I can say that I am certain that some of our confidence men did have connection with these groups.

Q Did any Jews belong to your confidence groups?

A Directly, no.

Q Did they belong to it indirectly?

A Yes. I say this because our confidence men reported to us from Palestine concerning the Zionist question and the new developments within Palestine which referred to Jewish sources.

Q Where did your reports go?

A They went to Heydrich.

(A recess was taken.)

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COLONEL NEAVE: You may go on.

BY DR. GAULIK:

Q Do you know what Heydrick's opinion toward the Jewish question was?

A To a certain extent, yes.

Q Where do you know that from?

A I just want to explain it. We received purely technical reports from Heydrich with the notation that he considered them too technical or too sterile to try.

Q I understand you know that from statements by Heydrick?

A Yes, those notations or those remarks were written on the reports when they came back.

Q What was Heydrich's point of view toward the Jewish question?

A I say that he had a much sharper attitude toward the Jewish question than was the attitude of the higher political leaders of the National Socialist Party, such as Rosenberg and others.

Q The Prosecution states that Heydrich ~~xxxhxx~~ envisaged as the final solution of the Jewish question the imprisonment and ~~xxxxx~~ murder of all Jews. I am referring to page 1761 of the German transcript, is that correct? And is it also correct concerning a counter order of 1936 and 1937?

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A I cannot say myself exactly what Heydrich envisioned as the final solution of the Jewish question.

Q You are not supposed to now say what he thought but only what you can state from his remarks and his notations on the edge of these reports.

A In that time; in 1937, such a vision by Heydrich was not evident through his remarks on his reports.

Q Have you found through statements and notations what he thought was the final solution of the Jewish question?

A I am of the opinion at that time Heydrich was not especially interested in this problem.

Q Did the Jewish Committee of the SD aid in Heydrich's sharp stand or sharp ideas concerning the Jewish question?

A I said that he did not like the kind of our reports and the nature of our reports.

Q Maybe you can answer this question first of all with a "yes" or "no."

A No.

Q Can you give a reason for this answer?

A We brought out in these reports, as a final conclusion, that the anschluss of the Jews should be aided and expedited. The reason for this conclusion was that the Jews themselves wanted to leave Germany due to the fact that Germany's laws did not give them

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any possible chance of existence. We also regarded at that time that the Zionist question, that is, a Jewish State in Palestine, was entirely within our interest.

Q The prosecution also claims that it was the duty of the Jewish Committee of the SD to give information concerning Jews to the Gestapo, is that correct?

A As long as I was on this Committee we did not give any such information. At that time there was no close liaison between the Jewish Committee ~~xxx with~~ of the SD and the Jewish Committee of the Gestapo.

Q Did you receive any material concerning the Jews from the Gestapo?

A I cannot remember that we received any important information from the Gestapo.

Q I ~~xxxx~~ ask you now as a final conclusion to this, if that on this theme and from your experience and your knowledge, was there any connection between the Jewish Committee of the SD and later on the final solution of the Jewish question as it turned out to be. To save time I want to give the directions in which you are to answer this question. Did the Jewish Committee of the SD aid in any way this final solution or anchluss of the Jewish question, or did the Jewish Committee have just the opposite duty and the opposite goal, that is, to

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come to a peaceful settlement of the Jewish question or was it the goal of the Jewish Committee of the SD to aid the Jews in obtaining their rightful place for existence among the nations of the world?

COLONEL NEAVE: That is ~~quite~~ a long and involved question. Do you think the witness has understood that? ~~We can always find out anyway, we can ask him.~~

WITNESS: I cannot answer this long question with a yes or no.

COLONEL NEAVE: ~~He should be asked separate question,~~ The questions should be asked separately.

BY DR. GAWLIK:

Q Did the Jewish Committee with the SD in any way aid the final "Endloesung" or the final solution of the Jewish question, that is, in the years 1936 and 1937.

A We did not make any suggestions at that time and it was neither within the scope of work nor the goal of the Jewish Committee of the SD, it was not within the duty or scope of the Committee to come to a conclusion, that is a final solution, as it was later on arrived upon, that is, in 1942.

COLONEL NEAVE: I don't understand the ~~question.~~ answer. Wasn't the question whether the Committee had any connection with this endloesung as it eventually turned out?

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DR. GAULIK: Yes.

COLONEL NEAVE: Ask the witness to clarify the answer.

WITNESS: The Jewish Committee of the SD did not prepare this final solution, nor did it, through it's reports in any way, aid in the accomplishment of it.

BY DR. GAULIK:

Q Was the goal or duty of the Jewish Committee just the opposite of the final solution as it was later on arrived upon?

A In our reports we suggested that the only way to settle or to come to a final settlement of the Jewish question, was a peaceful emigration, in other words, as it was arrived upon later on.

Q You worked later on with the Jewish Committee of the SD in Danzig. Was this activity typical of the activity in all of Germany?

A To a certain extent, yes. However, there were some basic state differences for Danzig as there were from the rest of Germany.

Q Since it was not typical in it's entire extent I do not ask any questions concerning this. I now come to the second point, and that is the cooperation of the SD in the actions of Eichmann. Did you receive your appointment or your transfer to Amt IV

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due to your previous experience with the Jewish Committee of the SD and in your work later on with the Jewish Committee in Danzig?

A No, I received the appointment only through my personal acquaintence with Eichmann.

Q In other words, would you have received this appointment by Eichmann also if you had not been in the Jewish Committee of the SD?

COLONEL NEAVE: Wait a minute. I don't think we can have questions as to what would have happened. We would like a question on what did happen.

BY DR. GAULIK:

Q Did you hear or did you feel through statements by Eichman that your transfer to the Committee of Eichmann was purely from personal acquaintanceship?

A Yes. I would like to explain the position of Eichmann to prove that it was only for personal reasons I was appointed on this Committee. Eichmann was the first outsider that came into the Gestapo through his personal acquaintenceship with Heydrich. This position in the Gestapo, therefore, was very difficult and he attempted to take only such persons into his commission that he knew personally and ones he thought he could trust.

Q Did you through some statements by Eichmann find out, or would you suggest that for the appointment of other officers of this committee, only personal reasons would prevail?

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A The persons that were appointed to the Committee were long, old acquaintences of Eichmann and he knew each one of them.

Q Were only these old acquaintences transferred to the Jewish Committee of Eichmann?

A No, there also were others who came from other departments, but he knew them personally.

Q Were only members of the SD appointed to this Committee?

A No, we also received men from the State Police.

Q Were the people that had formerly worked in the Jewish Committee of the SD especially suitable for the work in the Committee of Eichmann?

M. MONNERAY: Is it possible to get the last answer in English?

COLONEL NEAVE: Will you read the answer, please.

(The last question and answer is read by the Reporter)

COLONEL NEAVE: Let's have the question and answer again. Did he take people from other organizations?
BY DR. GAULIK:

Q Was the Committee also xxxxxx strengthened by members of other organizations?

A Yes, Eichman also graded and enlarged the staff with Members of the Gestapo and State Police.

COLONEL NEAVE: Now go on.

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BY DR. GAULIK:

Q Were those persons who formerly worked in the Jewish Committee of the SD especially suitable for the work in the Commission of Eichmann?

A Yes, they did have some actual knowledge of the matter, but the matters concerning this commission or committee were entirely different from what they had worked on previously.

Q Isn't it true that these men worked on the Jewish question from the scientific point of view?

A Yes, from the scientific and political viewpoint.

Q Was there any connection between the interior intelligence information, Amt III, and the foreign intelligence, Amt 6 or 7, on the one hand, and the Jewish or Eichmann Committee on the other hand?

A So far as I can judge, no.

Q Was there also no connection between the chiefs of these amts Ohlendorf and Sichs on one hand and Eichmann on the other?

A The connection to Ohlendorf and Sichs was not different, but I know that it was in opposition to Schellenberg.

Q I did not mean personal connection. I mean official connection?

A I speak of the official connection.

DR. GAULIK: No further questions.

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CROSS EXAMINATION

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q Will you tell me whether the Hamptsturmfuehrer Brunner was a member of the SD?

A As far as I know, yes.

Q And what about Hans Gunther?

A He was originally with the SD but I think he later went to the Gestapo, and/the State Police.

Q What about Otto Hinsche?

A Hinsche was a member of the Gestapo.

Q He has not been a member of the SD?

A No.

Q And Franz Novak?

A I don't know for sure but I believe he was a member of the SD.

Q And Hartenberger?

A Hartenberger belonged to the Inspector of the Security Police in Vienna and he was connected with a group consisting of SD and Gestapo. I don't know under what personnel list he was carried.

Q And as such inspector he was inspector at the same time for the Gestapo and the SD?

A Yes

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Q Then Dr. Seidl?

A He was from the SD.

Q And Dannecker?

A Dannecker came from the SD.

Q And Krumey?

A As far as I know Krumey did not come from the SD? He ~~did~~ did not belong to the SD. He belonged to the immigration or resettlement anchluss.

Q And this organization was a part of what organization?

A I believe it belonged to the Reichsfuhrung SS.

Q And Burger?

A Burger also was with the inspector of the Security Police and the SD in Vienna.

Q All of those people remained in the organization with Eichmann?

A Yes, may I mention a few more names that belonged to the closer group or circle of Eichmann?

Q All of those people were at the same time members of the SS? And ~~Hunsche~~ Hunsche?

A No, he was a so called uniform fuehrer and he was also ~~Hauptsturmfuehrer~~ Hamptsturmfuehrer in the SA.

Q You told us this morning that you left the SD when you got your new job ~~in Bratislava,~~ with Eichman.

A Yes, when I was transferred to his office.

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Q Now when you were interrogated by Colonel Brookhart on the 15th of November in the morning, you told this officer, that in September, 1944, during your meeting with Mueller you requested to be permitted to re-enter the Security Police, and on the question of Colonel Brookhart:

"Q The Security police of Security Service?"

you answered: "Both", is that correct?

A Yes.

Q So you were in September, 1944, a member of both, isn't that so?

A I think the conference with Mueller was a little bit later and I belonged to the SD and the Gestapo, having been transferred from the SD to the Gestapo.

Q But why did you tell us this morning that you left in 1940, the SD?

A I meant to infer on leaving, since the date of the transfer is 1940, I did not receive any orders any more from either Amt 3, 6 or 7.

Q When you were in Slovakia and Bratislava from whom did you get your pay?

A I received my pay from the SD and my expense account and daily expense money from the Gestapo and State Police.

Q So both paid you?

A Yes.

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Q Eichmann was a member of the SD, wasn't he?

A Yes, originally he belonged to the SD

Q You don't know whether he continued to be paid by the SD?

A I believe that he, as well as his deputy, Goethe, were later on taken over completely by the Gestapo.

Q Was Eichman actually independent or did he receive his instructions from Mueller?

A He received them from Mueller.

Q And Mueller was the head of the Gestapo, wasn't he?

A Yes.

Q What do you call the [illegible] Emsatzkommando?

A The Emsatzkommandos or groups were, as far as I know, groups or task forces, which were used outside Germany to carry out the Security Police Measurers.

INTERPRETER: The witness said the [illegible] Emsatzkommandos of the Security Police and SD.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q You told us this morning that very often the agents of the Emsatzkommandos were working for the different [illegible] countries and were completely independent, and got their orders directly from Berlin, isn't that so?

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A I want to limit my answer to such an extent that I know of certain countries were this condition prevailed. I cannot make this statement for all countries.

Q For instance?

A I know that this was the case in France. I know it was my case in Slovakia. I know it was the case of Greece. I know that was the case in Bulgaria. I know it was the case in Hungary, also in Croatia. I know it was the case in Roumania and Denmark. Concerning the other countries I do not know.

Q When Eichmann sentx agents into one of those countries in order to bring about a final solution of the Jewish question, for instance, he used a very small number of agents, I suppose, isn't that true?

A They were mostly very small groups with the exception of Hungary where he went down himself and took almost his entire staff along.

Q What was the average number of the members of those groups?

A I know that in Greece, for instance, this group consisted of about six men.

Q And in France have you any idea?

A In France also Bruner had a special group with him which consisted of about ten men.

Q And Before Gruner Dammecker?

A Dammecker also brought a small staff with him

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to France.

Q Do you know, Hagn, SS Sturmbamfuhrer?

A Yes.

Q Was he a member of the SD?

A Yes.

Q And Kiefer?

A I don't know him.

Q And Lischka?

A He was a member of the Gestapo.

Q Schmidt, Oberstrumfuhrer?

A I do not know.

Q And Thilmann.

A I don't know him.

Q And Sommer?

A I don't know him.

Q And Heinricksohn?

A I don't know him.

Q Now, in the different occupied countries where those Commanders had to work they had the commission to realize the transportation and deportation of thousands and thousands of people, isn't that so?

A Yes.

DR. GAULIK: I want to object. I believe the evidence presented here is only supposed to be concerning Emsatzkommandos.

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M. MONNERAY: I am only asking questions about it.

COLONEL NEAVE: Didn't the action of the Einsatzkommandos involve the transporting of Jews?

DR. GAULIK: I am not really sure what Einsatzkommandos we are talking about.

M. MONNERAY: We are talking about agents of Eichmann in the different occupied territories in order to realize the solution of the Jewish question.

DR. PELKMANN: I wish, so that no mistake will be made, that the Einsatzkommandos will not be used in connection with this action, since they were an entirely different group.

COLONEL NEAVE: That does seem to be so.

DR. PELKMANN: It has been treated before in the Court and these Einsatzkommandos were mentioned and talked about in an entirely different background.

COLONEL NEAVE: GO on.

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: I would like to join my colleague on this matter as I understood the statement of proof put forth by the counsel for the SS was that he was trying to prove by this witness what was meant by this term "final solution."

COLONEL NEAVE: I think he answered this question. I am going to allow Mr. Monneray to go on. What I meant, I said it seems that these Einsatzkommandos were different

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from the agents, ~~when I said: "It seems that these Einsatz-kommandos are different from the agents."~~ When I said, "I think that is so", I was ~~referrx~~ referring to the difference, ~~between the Einsatzkommandos and agents, and~~, I think, therefore, Dr. Gawlik, the cross examination should proceed, and it does refer to the Einsatzkommandos.

~~XXXMXXMONNERAX~~

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q How did the agents of Eichmann in the different occupied territories realize this very heavy task of taking that point of view, especially to organize the arrest, the concentration and the transportation of thousands of people?

A They used for this the local SS and police leaders, the local police group that were available.

Q So in the technical realization the police and the army and the SD cooperated in this task, isn't that so?

A It was mostly the order police that was ~~xxxxx~~ xxxxx~~x~~ used in it. I ~~xxxx~~ don't know personally of any cases where members of the SD were used to transport these Jews. I want to point out especially it was mostly the full armed police ~~xxx~~ detachments that were used for this purpose.

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Q Now during an interrogation on the 17th of November by Colonel Brookhart in the afternoon you were questioned on the deportation of Hungarian Jews, ~~and it was~~, a happening in July, 1944, and Colonel Brookhart asked you who was guarding the deportation or transfer and you answered it was guarded at that time by the Commander of the Security Police in Budapest?

A Yes, I said yesterday that this was the one and only case that I know of where members of the Waffen SS, that is Germans of foreign origin, who had been drafted into the Waffen SS, and it was the only case I know of that they were used to guard these transports.

Q Under whose jurisdiction was the Jewish question, under the jurisdiction of the commander of the Security Police or under the jurisdiction of the Commanders of the SD?

A For instance in Poland, according to an order of Himmler, the Jewish question was a matter of the higher SS and police leaders. In other occupied countries this special group of agents of Eichmann were included into the staff ~~of the Sonderkommando~~ of the Security Police and SD. It depended on whether Eichmann considered this country, according to it's number of Jews, important or not.

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Q When he considered this question as important, what did he do?

A Then he sent into these countries a special group He especially sent in special groups of Sonderkommandos into these countries if he considered the border police and Schutzepolizei not sufficient and the security police and SD not energetic enough.

Q So in other countries your Sonderkommandos had completed the task of the Commander in Chief of the SD?

A It might be better to say instead of "complete" to use the word "accelerate."

Q Which was the first problem when you had to realize the deportation of Jews in some foreign country?

A These orders concerning the deportation of the Jews in these foreign countries started in 1941, and beginning in 1942, first Eichmann ordered the registration of all Jews in that country. Then when this registration was completed he named the time when this deportation should start. He, when the deportation was supposed to start, or about to start, he came to the country himself in order to discuss the measurers concerning the deportation, with the army, with the police and the political leaders.

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Q How did the German authorities realize this first stage of that registration of the Jews?

A Eichmann used mostly the local police~~x~~ officers for the police administration.

Q And if he met any resistance on the part of the foreign police authorities, what were the measurers to overcome this resistance?

A I don't know of any point personally where he met any resistance at that point.

DR. PELKMANN: I have an objection. I would like to find out before we continue this line of questioning whether the witness has any information on this point, or whether he only has information concerning his activities in ~~xkxx~~ Saloniki?

M. MONNERAY: May I state something?

COLONEL NEAVE: Go on Mr. Monneray.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q Anyhow the German authorities had to supervise those first steps taken by the local police, isn't that so?

A I believe that they controlled and checked these measures.

Q Do you know which authority was most acceptable for this work of controlling or supervision?

A May I make an objection to this?

COLONEL NEAVE: What ~~dxxxxhx~~ does he say?

INTERPRETER: He wants to make an objection.

COLONEL NEAVE: Let ~~me~~ him answer the question.

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WITNESS:

A It was different in ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ the various countries. For instance we did not have such control in Slovakia, and for instance in Saloniki the registration was not made by the local police but by the Jewish Community which was ordered to do that by the Military Commanders.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q You didn't answer my question. I asked ~~you~~ you not who realized it but who supervised this registration? Was it the ordnungspolizei?

A At times the order police was also used, but mostly it was men sent down by Eichman, representatives of Eichmann.

Q You have told us that Eichman only sent a very few number of people and how could eight or ten men supervise the registration of thousands and thousands of Jews?

A As a rule there was not a very complete control of this registration, but just a spot check.

Q Was it necessary for this purpose to know exactly the political situation in the occupied territories?

A Yes

Q Was it necessary to have a certain number of agents in the nationally occupied territories in service in order to control this registration?

A Yes.

H0940 - 0033

Q Was it necessary to have an intelligence and net of information in order to carry out this task of supervision?

A I don't understand the question.

Q I will answer you once more. In order to supervise the activities of the local police and the registration of the Jews, was it necessary to have officers trained in this sort of intelligence work?

A There were groups in virtually every country that due to their political and personal convictions worked together voluntarily with the occupying power.

COLONEL NEAVE: WE will adjourn and you may continue your cross examination after lunch.

(A recess was taken until 1400 hours)

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DIETER ~~WISCELENY~~ Wisleceny -- Resumed

CROSS EXAMINATION -- ~~Resumed~~ Continued

(The Commission reconvened at 1400 hours.)

COMMISSIONERS:

Captain Joseph Tubridy
M. Martin-Havad

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q Witness, I would like to know what the mission of the SD in the occupied territoris, so far as those activities in relation and connection with your work were concerned.

A I did not, or would not cooperate and had no connection with the office of the SD in the occupied territories. Handling the Jewish question was exclusively the work of AMT ~~III~~ IV since 1939.

Q Witness, did you tell us, yes or no, that all the German services in the occupied territories had to cooperate with the agencies of Eichmann in order to realize the deportation of the Jews?

A Yes, if requested.

Q Do you maintain that the SD, if asked for it, did not intervene in this realization?

A The SD could not avoid not following such an order.

DR. GAWLIK: I would like to raise an objection because the question is a mere speculation. The question whether the SD actually cooperated when requested to do so should be asked.

M. MONNERAY: There is no speculation at all since the witness admitted this morning that most of the close cooperators of Eichmann were members of the SD. Secondly, the witness admitted this morning that a very small number

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of the special agencies of Eichmann sent into the occupied territories made necessary the cooperation of the local German services, and third, those services were, according to the words of the witness, "The German Army, Security Police, and the SD."

CAPT. TUBRIDY: The question will be allowed.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q We were talking this morning about the preparations for the deportation of the Jews. Do you admit that the main task of the SD, inside and outside of Germany, was intelligence?

A Yes, the SD was an intelligence organization.

Q Was it the task of the SD to gather as much intelligence as possible concerning the occupied territories, the attitude of the local governments, the willingness of foreign governments to execute German requests, to make research in order to find enemies of Germany? Will you answer yes or no.

A I do not feel ~~responsible~~ capable ~~to~~ answering ~~since~~ this question as I never worked in the SD in the occupied territories.

Q Did you cooperated with the German Commissioners of the Security Police and the SD in the occupied territories?

A Yes.

Q Did you give them any orders?

A No, I did not.

Q Did you transmit any orders?

A Those that I received from Eichmann, yes.

Q Did those orders implicate the agencies enumerated in the performance of the different missions and tasks which were necessary in order to realize the deportation of the Jews?

H0940 - 0036

A These orders only referred to the deportation of Jews.

Q And to the arrest of the Jews?

A And to the arrest for purposes of deportation.

Q And the order for the arrest indicated the necessity of arrests, isn't that so?

A Yes.

Q And you admitted this morning the preparation of arrests made necessary research work for intelligence work, isn't that so?

A I said registration of the persons.

Q And the Commissioners of the Security Police and SD were entitled to transmit those orders and instructions at the same time to the SD and the Security Police?

A As far as the use of police employees was concerned, the Commissioner of the Security Police and SD turned to the Higher Police and SS Fuehrer as the main command for these matters.

Q Was the Commissioner of the Security Police and SD under the command or the authority of the Higher Police leaders?

A Yes.

Q I would like to show you document RF-1210. It is a report of Dannecher working in France as an agent of Eichmann according to your testimony. He says:

"Until now three great actions against the Jewry in Paris have been stopped. Each time the Dienststelle was here, they were responsible for the selection of the Jews to be arrested and for the whole preparation and technical execution of these actions."

Now, does he mean by Dienststelle this whole agency?

35

H0940-0037

A Yes, I imagine so, otherwise he would have used the letters BDS or KDS.

Q And he was entitled to get the cooperation of the BDS for the execution of this work, isn't it so?

A Yes, certainly.

Q When special agents went to the different occupied territories, sometimes pressure had to be carried out against local governments in order to obtain their cooperation, isn't it so?

A I can only testify as to the countries in which I myself have been.

Q Have you been in France?

A No, I have never been there.

Q Have you been in ~~[illegible]~~ CZechoslovakia ?

A Yes. No diplomatic pressure or any pressure was put on the Czechoslovakian Government in this respect. However, in Hungary, certain diplomatic pressure was put on ~~this~~ their government concerning this question.

Q By which channel was this pressure exercised?

A I know of Hungary, and those channels were the German Ambassador. . .

Q From whom did he get his information?

A Concerning the Jewish question?

Q As far as the attitude of the Hungarian politicians were concerned.

A He received information firstly from the German Foreign Office.

Q To what extent did the German Police and representatives of the German Security Police in Budapest cooperate?

A I know that in Budapest, for example, the Commissioner always had the contrary opinion of the Ambassador, the Chief of the Amt ~~IV~~ VI, Foreign Intelligence, so that there was no direct handing down of information on this question in Hungary.

Q But the director of Amt ~~IV~~ VI was in touch with the German Ambassador, wasn't he?

H0940-0038

A Yes.

Q You told us this morning when you were in the SD you had no connection at all with the Gestapo?

A My testimony referred to my work in the Jewish question division in 1937.

Q Do you maintain that the reports coming out of the SD services were not transmitted to the Gestapo?

DR. GAWLIK: I raise objection to this question because the witness was named by me only to testify as to the Jewish question. He was interrogated on this question, and therefore can only answer as to the connection of the Gestapo to the Jewish question.

M. MONNERXY: The testimony of the witness this morning about the activity of the SD was perfectly clear, and his testimony has to be checked by the Prosecution as to its credibility. The witness has been in the SD from 1934 to 1940. He has been, afterwards, a member of the SD, so as to his credibility, it is necessary to check whether or not he is maintaining that the SD had no connection with the Gestapo.

CAPT. TUBRIDY: Dr. Gawlik, I appreciate your objection, but I would like to say that in cross examination, it is quite impossible to restrict the questioning in view of the close intertwining of all of the se organizations, and it would be quite proper, in cross examination, to find out exactly how much knowledge this witness has of these matters generally.

DR. GAWLIK: I have no objection if the witness is first asked whether he worked in any other division of the SD, and how far his knowledge concerning these divisions is, then after the question has been asked, I have no objection. But, up to now, we have only heard the witness only worked on the Jewish question.

H0940 - 0039

CAPT. TUBRIDY: This is not direct examination, Dr. Gawlik, this is cross examination, and more latitude is allowed.

M. MONNERAY: Witness, the first question, you were in the SD. . . .

DR. GAWLIK: Col. Neave said, or told us, that also in cross examination the prosecution was to confine its examination to the matter of the testimony that is supposed to be presented, and that is one of the reasons why we are to present in writing what we wanted to prove.

COL. SMYRNOW: I do not quite see why Counsel for the defense objects to these questions being put because in examination the witness was asked about several different matters including free masonry, therefore I quite agree with my colleague that they should be put.

CAPT. TUBRIDY: Let's get on, Dr. Gawlik. The objection was overruled the question and permitted the question, and I tried to explain why. You may proceed M. Monneray.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q You have been in Danzig in the SD in 1937, have you not?

A Yes.

Q What was your mission in Danzig?

A I was consultant on questions concerning free masonry and Jewry, and opposition groups in which the Department of II A of the Reich main office concerned itself.

Q So, in all those three years, you were not only dealing with the Jewish question?

A No.

Q Therefore, I think our question is quite in the scope of the knowledge of this witness.

During those three years, did you have any connection with the Gestapo?

H0940 - 0040

A Yes.

Q What were these connections?

A First of all, a personal connection. I personally knew the different consultants of theGestapo who worked on these questions. At different times, not very often, but at intervals, I visited these consultants in order to get reports and information about the work they carried on.

Q So the Gestapo was merely an executive mission?

A Yes, exclusively.

Q And your mission was of information?

A Yes.

Q And your information was transmitted to the Gestapo?

A No, our information was sent through the channel of our immediate superior office, that is, the SD superior section, and the Reichminister's section office in Berlin. We were not subordinated to the Gestapo of Danzig and were by no means an auxiliary organization.

Q Your mission was to find political opposition, wasn't it?

A Not to find out the opposition movements, we knew that they existed, but to find out the activities of the opposition movements.

Q And the Gestapo applied the consequence according to this information, isn't that so?

A The Gestapo concerned itself with the individual case, that is, with the individual members who had at that time opposed or committed anything against laws of the State at that time. But our activity, on the other hand, our mission was to report on the great currents, opposition currents, that were at work within the Reich itself, and to find out how and what effect the mission had in combating these oppositions.

H0940-0041

Q And other services had to direct their conclusions out of these reports, didn't they?

A Yes, the State.

Q And the report of the State was the State police, wasn't it, since the State police had the mission to find the political opposition? Will you answer yes or no, please?

A Would you please repeat the question?

M. MONNERAY: Perhaps the reporter will read it back.

REPORTER: And the report of the State was the State police, wasn't it, since the State police had the mission to find the political opposition?

WITNESS: The State police was one of the representatives of the State.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q May I just read to you an excerpt of an article from the Die Deutsche Polizei, document PS-1680, USA 477.

"The successful combating of all activities was tied to the State by the Security Police and can be traced back to a considerable extent to the intelligence abwehr of the SD."

Is this a correct statement?

A I can say that in the office where I was, and during the time I was there, there was no direct inter-change of information and news except very occassionally, and that no information was handed down to the Gestapo by the SD. May I say, in explanation, that as far as I know, when I was a member of the SD, the Gestapo always considered the SD as interfering with the business of the Gestapo, and considered it as a superfluous organization.

Q Now, the special agents of Eichmann in the occupied territories could ask the cooperation of the Army authorities, isn't that so?

H0940 - 0042

A Not directly, only through the channels of the Higher SS and Police Leader.

Q And in 1940?

A In general?

Q Yes.

A As far as I know, no deportations took place in 1940.

Q 1941?

A The predecessor of the Higher SS and Police Leaders in the occupied territories were usually representatives of the Higher SS and Police Leaders, and to them this information was sent.

Q Those higher Commissioners of the Police and SD tried to request the assistance of the Army in order to carry out the measure against the Jews, didn't they?

A The higher SS and Police leaders usually turned in such cases to the competent Army commissioner, and if necessary, asked them for cooperation.

Q So they asked the police first, the German Security police, and the Army forces for help, is that correct?

A If necessary, yes.

M. MONNERAY: I have no further questions.

BY COL. SMYRNOW:

Q I have a few short questions which I would like to place to the witness.

You probably remember your testimony before the Court on 3 January. I don't wnat to deal with these questions, I only want to refer to that part in which you said Eichmann was the Chief of Department 4A4.

A Yes, Eichmann was head of this division.

Q I believe that there is a misunderstanding here, and that you mean Eichmann was the head of 4B4.

H0940 - 0043

A May I explain this~~m~~ misunderstanding?

The division was known, from 1940 until 1943, as division ~~4B4~~ 4B4. Not until the end of 1943 was this name~~d~~ changed into Division 4A4B.

Q I am interested in this because all the documents, or all the correspondence concerning the mass destruction of Jews bear, at the bottom, the term 4A4B, and this was in 1942, October, and the beginning of 1943.

A Yes, that is right.

Q Tell me, in what occupied territories were there agencies of Eichmann?

A This is reported in the diagram that I submitted yesterday.

Q France, Holland, Belgium. At first, this work was forbidden in France and Belgium, together with Holland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Greece, and a special m ission was commissioned to remain here in order to aid Rumania.

A That was only one special deputy of Eichmann called Richter.

Q Was there an agent of Eichmann in Poland?

A No.

Q In the Baltic countries?

A No.

Q In Byelo-Russia (Ruthenia)?

A No.

Q In the ~~Ukranian~~? Ukraine?

A No.

Q In Crimea?

A No.

Q Would you please tell us who the agents of Eichmann were who carried out his mass execution of Jews in the Ukraine, Croatia, Crimea, and the Caucasus?

H0940-0044

A These actions in the Eastern district were ~~separated~~ separated from the other actions of Eichmann.

Q I refer you to a document of which you spoke on 3 January. It is dated April, 1942, and is an order by Himmler concerning the destruction of Jews in general, and include the territories of ~~S~~ the Soviet Union and also ~~four~~ of the enumerated territories.

A Yes, certainly, but the actions, the mass destruction executed in these territories were not carried out by Eichmann, but by action groups, Eichmann personally told me that the final solution in these territories had been turned over to the action groups.

Q Yes, I am of your opinion, but in this case, the circle of people who knew of these things was considerably larger than you maintain.

A That may be true. In my testimony I confined myself to the circle surrounding Eichmann and the mission in Russia was not his immediate task.

Q Was there an agent of Eichmann in Croatia?

A Yes.

Q What relation was there between Eichmann and the action group Croatia?

A The agent of Eichmann was subordinate to the police attache in Sabgrad and was not subordinated to the action group.

Q Was this action group subordinated to Eichmann's agent or were they only connected?

A I don't know exactly, I only know that Eichmann's agent had his office at the police attache's office, and had some connection with the action group.

Q The action group carried out the action independently, therefore it was not necessary to take care of the deportation into concentration camps, is that right?

H0940 - 0045

A I don't know when an action group was sent to Croatia or how long it was there.

Q This action group, this mobile police formation, came to Croatia at the end of 1942 and was there until 1943.

A Eichmann's agent had already been sent to Croatia in 1941. I don't know whether he did his work there after the mobile police formation was sent there.

Q I want to put a few questions to you concerning dealing with the division Eichmann. Before 1936 there was no special division treating Jewish questions, isn't that so?

A Yes.

Q Was the division that concerned itself with questions of Free Masonry also concerning itself with the Jewish question? I am now speaking of the time before 1936.

A Yes.

Q I want to ask you, if, in the course of 1941, 1942, 1943, there was a special department in Amt III which concerned itself with the Jewish question?

A No.

Q Would it be right to say that the division that was formerly in Amt III and concerned itself with Jewish questions was later transferred, after 1940, to Amt IV?

A There has always been a Jewish question division in Amt IV. The Jewish question division with the SD was dissolved in 1939.

Q And, at that time, in 1939, their entire personnel was transferred from Amt III into the Gestapo?

44

H0940 - 0046

A No, not until Eichmann took over this division at the end of 1939 and the beginning of 1940. Then, in the course of the years, he had one man after another who came into his division.

Q I want to ask you whether the intelligence net that concerned itself with information was also transferred from Amt III to Amt IV?

A Yes.

Q Would it be right to say that in 1940, the Jewish question division of Amt III concerned itself with intelligence and Amt IV had police executive work?

A That is correct.

Q And after 1940 the intelligence and executive work was merged into Amt IV B IV?

A Yes.

Q Please tell me when you were in Auschwitz, tell me the exact time?

A I was in Auschwitz twice.

Q When were you there first?

A In May, 1942.

Q And when were you in Auschwitz for the second time ?

A It was in the summer of 1942, either at the end of July or the beginning of August.

Q And will you please tell me which area of Auschwitz you were in, Birkenau or in Monowitz?

A I was at the commandant's office of Auschwitz, and I don't know in which one of these localities it was situated.

Q Did you visit Obersturmbannfuehrer Libygenscher?

A At both times, and also later, I spoke to Obersturmbannfuehrer Hoess.

H0940 - 0047

Q Did you see Obersturmbannfuehrer Polatscheh?

A Noo

Q Sturmbannfuehrer Berg?

A I only remember a man called Aumueller or Aumeyer.

Q A Hauptsturmfuehrer?

A Yes, he accompanied Hoess.

Q When you visited the main section of the camp, did you not see how the gas chambers were operated?

A No, the first time I visited Auschwitz I only saw Hoess and spoke to him in the casino. The second time I visited Auschwitz, I was accompanied by a Slovakian journalist and we were only shown a carpenter's work shop, a kitchen, and one of the barracks. The entire visit took about one hour at that time.

Q Then, you visited only essentially, the medical block and the block of the labor command?

A The barracks and kitchen that we visited were quite near the commandant's office.

Q In this case, I want to submit a document to you concerning the interrogation of my colleague that was found in one of the common graves near Riga. I should like to know who ordered that the identity papers of the Jews be exchanged at that time. The passes and the identity papers that the Jews had were replaced, and I want to know what office managed and carried this out.

DR. PELEKMANN: There is one question I should like to ask. The witness is now being asked about Riga, and this identity card is supposed to have been found on a dead person in Riga.

H0940 – 0048

COL. SMYRNOW: Riga is only the place where the document was found. I am not interested in Riga as such.

WITNESS: The identity card shows that it was issued by the police president's office of Berlin. I therefore conclude that the exchange of these identity cards was carried out by the State Police administration.

BY COL. SMYRNOW:

Q One final question concerning the two documents I submitted. Both the documents bear a stamp which says "Evacuated". Who furnished this stamp?

A This stamp does not show this because it does not bear any other designation. I imagine it was stamped by the transports of Eichmann who carried this action through.

Q Did an agent of Eichmann manage and carry this through, or was it the Order Police or the State Police?

A I don't know who made up this transport.

Q Witness, all three possibilities are given that it was.

A It was either the Order Police, State Police, or a Deputy of Eichmann's.

COL. SMYRNOW: Thank you. I have no further questions.

BY LT. HARRIS:

Q I have just a few questions, if the court please.

When you were a member of the Jewish Committee of the SD, to whom did you pass your reports?

A The official channels were as follows:

From the Jewish committee, the reports went to the Chief of Office. From the Chief of Office to the Chief of the SD Main Office, Central Office Heydrich, and from there the question was decided upon as to whether the question was to be submitted to Himmler or not.

H0940 - 0049

Q These reports carried by the SD were used by Heydrich in developing policy the ~~xxxxx~~ to be pursued by the Security police and SD, you know that don't you?

A Yes.

Q And the SD gathered this information, passed it on to Heydrich, and if use was made of it, very likely Heydrich passed it on back down to the Gestapo, didn't he?

A That is possible if Heydrich ordered a copy to be sent to an office of the Gestapo.

Q And the Gestapo was the office that Heydrich used to carry out political control, wasn't it?

A Yes.

Q And this arrangement was naturally closed after Heydrich became chief of the Security Police and SD in 1936?

A There was no close cooperation in the lower channels, but in the higher offices there was merely an amalgamation.

Q And the final amalgamation took place in 1939 when you were in Danzig, didn't it?

A Yes.

Q You said that your Jewish committee of the SD recommended to Heydrich that the Jewish problem in Germany be solved by immigration, didn't you?

A Yes.

Q And you, of course, realized that to require all of the Jewish people in Germany to leave would require a certain amount of coercion, didn't you?

A To this I should like to say that by the legislation carried out in the Third Reich, the position of the Jew in Germany had become ~~xxxxxxxx~~ incapable

H0940 - 0050

of solving. As a result, the entire Jewish population of Germany tended to leave Germany. The realization of this trend was opposed by the fact that the Jews who wished to leave Germany could only take along a very small part of their property, and personal belongings, and this was reallythe nucleus of the immediate problem.

Q And your suggestion to Heydrich was, in effect, that these restrictive measures against the Jews should be increased so as to get them to immigrate?

A No, our suggestion was that the formalities required for immigration of Jews be shortened, that the time for them be shortenened, and that a half-way satisfactory solution be found in regard to the property that the Jews would be allowed to take with them. For this reason, the so-called Central Office for Jewish Immigration was founded in Vienna in 1938. By shortening the time and the formalities of immigration of Jews, this Central Office managed the immigration of 120,000 Jews within a very short time.

Q Now, Heydrich was, of course, the spokesman of the Security Police and SD, wasn't he?

A Yes, certainly.

Q And you carried out his directives?

A Yes.

Q What was the Kultur Gemeinde?

A The Kultur Gemeinde or the Kultur Judische?

Q That is the way it is stated here.

A The term "Kultur Gemeinde" is unkown to me. I know the term Kultur Judische.

Q What is the Kultur Judische?

A Such a committee existed in Vienna and the Jews who adhered to the Mosaic faith were included.

H0940-0051

Q And you thought that what you should do in Germany, your recommendation to Heydrich was that you should get the Jews to leave Germany in the same manner that the commission in Vienna handled the immigration of the Jews from Austria, is that right? I am not speaking of you personally, but of the recommendation.

A At the time these suggestions were made to Heydrich, I was no longer in Berlin. I only heard of them.

Q Well, what then were you referring to when you gave your direct testimony?

A The suggestions for simplification of formalities concerning Jewish immigration were begun in 1937, but were put into a concrete form in 1938.

Q I think I will read to you what your chief, Heydrich, said about your methods of getting the Jews out of Germany under the chairmanship of Field Marshal Goering, on 12 November, 1938, being an extract from document 1816-PS, page 19 of the English translation. This document says, "In spite of the elimination of the Jews from the Economic Life, the main problem, namely, to keep the Jew out of Germany, remains. May I make a few proposals to that effect?" Then he goes on to make some proposals and he has this to say, speaking of the situation in Vienna.

Q Through the Jewish Kultur Gemeinde or Kultur Judische commissioner, we extracted a certain amount of money from the rich Jew who wanted to immigrate. By paying this amount and an additional sum in foreign currency, they made it possible for a number of poor Jews to leave. The problem was not to make the rich Jew leave, but to get rid of the Jewish mob."

That does not sound as though Heydrich, in 1938, was very much concerned about alleviating the condition of the Jew so as to make it easier for them to immigrate, does it?

H0940-0052

A Apart from the tone of Heydrich that is found in this document, I should say that his policy of subsidizing poor Jews and thus enabling them to immigrate would, on the contrary, speak for him.

Q That is providing the rich Jew furnished the subsidy?

A Yes.

Q Let's pass on to page 21 of this document and we will see whether this is consistent with what you say the position of the SD and Heydrich was at that time. Here is another thing that Heydrich said:

"As an additional measure, I would propose to withdraw from the Jews all personal papers, such as permits and drivers' licenses. No Jew should be allowed to own a car, neither should he be permitted to drive because in that way he will endanger German life. By not being permitted to live in certain districts, he should be further restricted to move about so freely. I say the Royal Square is not to be entered any more within a certain radius by a Jew. The same would go for establishment of culture, border fences, military installations. Furthermore, like Minister Dr. Goebbels has said before, exclusion of the Jews from public theaters, movie houses, and so forth. . ." and he goes on.

That does not sound like any easing condition of the Jews by Heydrich or the SD, does it?

A Not an alleviation in the position of the Jews, by no means.

Q Or, as a matter of fact, you knew that if these poor Jews were caught violating one of these absurd restrictions, it was the Gestapo who sent them to the concentration camp, wasn't it?

A Yes. As I testified before, Heydrich was especially severe concerning the Jewish question, and always expressed this by marginal notices in his reports.

H0940-0053

LT. HARRIS: I want to ask you a few questions about this matter of knowledge of the program for the biological extermination of the Jews.

CAPT. TUBRIDY: Can we take a recess here?

LT. HARRIS: Yes, it would be a very good time.

(The commission recessed.)

H0940-0054

Q I want to be perfectly clear about this: You have testified as to a limited number of people, do you mean you knew about the order for the bioligical extermination of the Jews?

A Yes.

Q Now are you referring to the biological extermination of the Jews in general or are you referring merely to the limited functions of the Eichmann group?

A I can only testify as to Eichmann's division and the tasks that this division had.

Q Well you knew that the Gestapo, the section of the Gestapo headed by Eichmann only had one portion of the extermination program of the Jews, didn't you?

A Yes.

Q Now this limited order about which you have testified, you received knowledge of in August, 1942?

A Yes.

Q Now, just briefly, what was this order and who issued it?

A As far as I remember the order I quoted it on the 3rd of January, but if you wish me to I can repeat it.

Q It is necessary that you repeat it because it places a limitation upon your testimony here today and I think we should have it in the record.

H0940-0055

A The order which Eichmann showed me at the last ~~time~~ time ran about as follows:

"The Fuehrer has ordered the final solution of the Jewish problem and I entrust the execution of this to the Chief of the Security Police and SD, and the Chief of the Economic Administration Central Office (Chief of the Concentration Camp Division) Not to be included in the final solution are Jews capable of working as far as they can be used in the work of the concentration camps. Report is to be made to me continually on the execution of this order?"

And that was approximately the contents of this order.

Q Now that isn't what we are talking about. We are not talking about the final solution of the Jews in general. We are talking about this particular order as passed down to you through Eichmann?

A Yes.

Q Now as I understand it, Hitler passed the order to Himmler and Himmler passed the order to Heydrick, and Heydrick subsequently to Kaltenbrunner and then to Mohler, and then to Eichmann, and Eichmann finally told you about it?

A Yes, that is how it was.

H0940-0056

Q So, of course, you don't know, you couldn't possibly know what other persons Hitler ~~may~~ may have told about this order of Heydrick or Mohler in any case?

A No, I can only testify to the people about whom I knew.

Q But you do know by reason of the wording of the order ~~that~~ that at least one other department of the SS had knowledge of this order, namely the ~~WVST~~ WVST?

A Yes.

Q And, of course, necessarily the Commandant of all extermination centers had to know about it?

A The personnel within these camps certainly.

Q And, of course, Auschwitz was not the only extermination center, was it?

~~INTERPRETER~~ INTERPRETER: There is evidently a mis-translation. I translated "The personnel of the camps", and the witness said:"The circle of persons of these camps."

~~LIEUTENANT~~ LIEUTENANT HARRIS: Now have you the last question Reporter?

REPORTER: Yes. (Question is read to the witness)

WITNESS: AS I have heard from Eichmann there were further such camps in the vicinity of Lublin.

BY LIEUTENANT HARRIS:

Q Do you know the names of Gunter or Maidenech?

A ~~XX~~

H0940-0057

A I learned of these names only during this trial. I always only heard of camps Maidenach and Gunther.

Q Now Eichman told you when he read you this order that he was going to let only you and I think it was Gunther know about it, didn't he?

A Yes.

Q And you found out a couple of months later Eichmann had told several other people as a matter of fact, didn't you?

A Yes, and I believe the occasion was a meeting in November of 1942 with Eichmann in Berlin.

Q And as a matter of fact even though you had been threatened with being placed in a concentration camp or even death if you dared to utter a word about this great secret, you yourself divulged the secret as time went on, didn't you?

A Yes.

Q Now, who did you tell?

A I spoke about this order to the Deputy of the Joint Camps at Bratislava, Milton Steiner his name was, and in 1944 in Budapest I spoke with Dr. Kassner, also a representative of the Joint Distribution Committee.

Q Are those the only people you talked to about this in the Joint Distribution Committee?

A Yes.

H0940-0058

Q Now, the joint distribution committee was a Jewish committee set up to try to save the lives of these poor Jewish people, wasn't it?

A Yes.

Q And when you spoke to Dr. Kassner about this he already knew Auschwitz was an annihilation center, didn't he?

A Yes.

Q Did he tell you where he had obtained that information?

A For the first time I spoke to Steiner at Bratislava in 1943. I knew that Steiner had gathered his information from Jewish refugees from Poland who had fled from Slovakia and had told him of events in Auschwitz.

Q In other words, Jewish people who were taken to Auschwitz knew, of course, that a large part of them would be exterminated there? You were at Auschwitz?

A I can't answer this question for certain but I have to allow the possibility that it is true.

Q And some of these, when they got to Auschwitz, some of them were put into work camps and some of them escaped and told their stories and it spread like wild fire throughout Jewery in Europe and finally reached this man Steiner you have told us about, that is perfectly obvious, isn't it?

H0940-0059

A It might have been the knowledge as to the events was restricted in Jewish circles too. I asked Steiner at that time as to where he had gathered his information. He said he personally had spoken to refugees from the camps around Auschwitz, and I believe joined the Joint Distribution ~~Company~~ committee and made up a report on these reports.

Q You know that the Jewish people in Slovakia, for example, were so well acquainted with what fate lay in store for them if they were seized and transported, that they would hide among the farms and in the fields in order to avoid being taken, don't you?

A A distinction has to be made between the different periods. In 1942 this was not common knowledge among the Jews but in 1944, however, I believe this knowledge was pretty common.

Q I mean when was it you talked to Steiner?

A In 1943.

Q Now you knew that the Joint Distribution ~~Company~~ Committee was passing this knowledge that it had acquired outside Germany to Switzerland and the rest of the world, didn't you?

A Yes.

H0940-0060

Q And, of course, that information was widely publicized in all of the other nations of the world?

A That is what I assume.

Q And one of the sections of the SD, Amt 6, the task of which was to obtain foreign intelligence, wasn't it?

A Yes.

Q You don't for a minute doubt that Amt 6 picked up this publicized information abroad that Germany was exterminating European Jewry, do you?

A I cannot say because I cannot judge the conditions within Amt 6.

Q Well you testified that this extermination program was officially opposed by Schellenberg?

A No, I only said that there were differences as to certain things between these two. May I add to this?

Q Yesterday, according to my notes, you said that Eichmann was officially opposed by Schellenberg. Now we are not interested in personal differences, but what were the official differences?

A XXXXXXXXXX Yes, official things. I heard from Eichmann that Schellenberg had occasionally employed Jews in his intelligence department. And Eichmann repeatedly tried to have these Jews removed or to give Schellenberg difficulty for having employed these Jews, and these were the reasons for their differences.

H0940-0061

Q Well you don't think for a moment, do you, that the SD with it's vast intelligence net work, both inside and outside Germany, particularly in the occupied territories where these enormous crimes were being committed, did not obtain knowledge of it, do you?

A It depends in what direction the intelligence work is being carried on. The SD had orders to work according to certain lines.

Q Now who else did you divulge this knowledge to, other than the names you have mentioned?

A I spoke to some of the members of Eichmann's committee about whom I knew had already been informed of this by Eichmann.

Q These are persons in addition to those you named this morning?

A No, they are included in this group.

Q Now, how about Dr. Geschke, did you ask Dr. Geschke about this order? Do you think he knew about it?

A Personally, I never spoke to Dr. Geschke about this order. I don't know whether Eichmann spoke to him or not.

Q Well, who is Dr. Gesche and what did he have to do with the removal of the Jews and their extermination from Hungary?

H0940-0062

A Dr. Gesschke was the Chief of the Security Police and SD in Hungary. During the time Dr. Geschke was employed down there, Eichmann, together with his special command, was at Budapest.

Q And this was the command that rounded up the Jews and sent them up to Auschwitz?

A That was carried out by the Hungarian Police. Eichman had kept xxxxxxxxx contact with the Hungarian Police and had them carry out this action.

Q Well how many men did Eichmann take down there to Hungary to help on this task of rounding up Jews in Hungary?

A The members of the Eichmann commanders in Hungary are mentioned by name on the diagram I submitted.

Q Now just what was the function of this Einsatz group of about 800 members which was organized under the leadership of Geschke to which you referred in your interrogation?

A This Einsatz group made up the personnel of the Chief of the Security Police and the SD in Hungary.

XXXX When the Germans entered Hungary this group was known as the Einsatz group, the Einsatz action group for Hungary, and later, April 1943, this group was changed into the surveillance of the Chief of Security Police and SD in Hungary.

Q Now this group furnished the Waffen SS guards that took over as the tropp transports reached the border?

H0940-0063

A The guard battalion of the Security Police and SD in Budapest was set up at the end of March or April, 1944.

Q Yes, and the ~~guard~~ ~~battalion~~ Waffen SS men who were attached to Geschke's organization were the guards which were used.

A Yes.

Q Now what did Dr. Merten know about this program of ~~extermination~~ extermination and removing the Jews from Greece?

A Personally I never spoke to Dr. Merten concerning the extermination of the Jews. I only spoke to him about their evacuation to the Eastern Territory.

Q And Dr. Merten was the Chief of the Military Administration down in Saloniki, wasn't he?

A Yes.

Q And, of course, if these people were just going to be resettled naturally they would take along all of their personal effects, even if they couldn't take their large movable objects, didn't they?

A Yes, or a certain percentage as far as I know. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Brunner was the man who managed these evacuations and his orders were that people could take along a certain per-cent of their personal effects.

Q Now, we are talking about a matter of common knowledge, the military transport command furnished freight ~~cars~~ cars used for the transport of the Jews from

H0940-0064

Greece, didn't it?

A Yes.

Q And as a matter of fact in that particular evacuation, not only did these poor Jews not take any of their movable belongings, but actually all of their cash and valuables were taken away from them before they left?

A Cash and gold was taken away from them, I believe. Brunner issued an order that each man was allowed to take 100 pounds of luggage along.

Q And all of this property, all of their cash and valuables and everything else that was left was turned over to the military administration, wasn't it?

A Yes.

Q It was pretty hard, and Dr. Merten, under those circumstances, did believe that the Jews were just going to be sent to some other community where they were going to re-establish their customary mode of life?

A It is very difficult to answer that question. I don't believe that Dr. Merten troubled himself very much about this question. At any rate he never asked me about it.

Q Now how about this fellow Abromeit. Did you ever talk to him about the deportation of Jews?

A Yes.

Q Did he know about the extermination program?

A Yes.

H0940-0065

Q You didn't mention it this morning. I just wanted to be sure.

A Yes, I mentioned him yesterday.

Q Now how about the Standartefuehrer Plobel, did you know about him, Plobel?

A I suppose that he knew of it.

Q Why do you suppose he knew about it if you didn't mention him this morning?

A He was a member of Eichmann's personal circle of friends. He had also special missions entrusted to him, missions of a kind that I supposed he knew about the extermination program of the Jews.

Q He was the fellow that was in charge of these commandos that went around to try to cover up the murder that had taken place and the bodies that had been buried in various places through the East, wasn't he?

A I don't know whether he personally covered up the murder of the Jews but I do know that he was in charge of commissions of secrecy, with regard to the executed Jews.

Q And he went out and removed all traces of extermination by the Einsatz group and other executioners, didn't he?

A Yes, as far as I know.

H0940-0066

Q In other words, there were a whole lot of people involved in this extermination of European Jewry, those were all of the people who were members of the Einsatz group and all of the people that worked for Eichmann and special people that went around covering up traces of executions and all of their helpers, such as the various Gestapo officials, who might be called upon to furnish help from time to time. All of these people had knowledge of this to a greater or less degree, didn't they?

A The commandos who participated in the final solution were relatively small. I don't know what conditions prevailed with the einsatz group.

Q Now getting back to the question of Hungary, now in these collecting camps, Eichmann sent his own commissioners in there to organize transports, didn't he?

A These transports were organized by the Hungarian police. Agents of Eichmann had been assigned to the Local Hungarian Police authorities in order to report on the correct procedure of these transports and to be able to assist the Hungarian police officers and give advice.

Q Well these men were members of the Gestapo, weren't they?

A For the greater part they were members of Eichmann's Committee.

H0940-0067

Q And Eichmann's Committee was a Gestapo Committee wasn't it?

A Yes.

Q Now, of course, I suppose when you had a big round-up in some country, there were quite a number of Jews who escaped or were not apprehended, isn't that true?

A Surely.

Q And whose task was it after that to arrest such Jews?

A In the case of Hungary the Hungarian police and in Slovakia the Slovakian police.

Q Well as a matter of fact the responsible agency was the regional Gestapo office, wasn't it?

A In the case of Slovakia, there was no Gestapo office.

Q Well, where there was a Gestapo office, it was the responsibility of the Gestapo?

A Usually this took place in cooperation with the police of the country concerned.

Q Yes, undoubtly the police of the country concerned reported these Jews who had been fortunate enough to escape and turn them over to the Gestapo who arrested them and sent them on their way to the concentration camps?

A That is possible.

Q Now I want to show you a document. I think you have all seen this document, though you may not be

H0940-0068

familiar with it, which the Gestapo office generally used in connection with these special tasks. This is a hauf book for the year 1943 and it is document L-318, USA 495, and this is a register maintained by a local Gestapo office in a town called Tomashek, Poland. Now if you will look at this document, you will see that there are/~~xxxxxx~~entries here giving the names of the persons arrested, the grounds for the arrest, and the disposition of the person arrested. Take for example, I call your attention especially to entry 286-, 287 and 288. Now, you see they refer to three different Jewish ~~xxxxxxx~~ people, and what is the ~~xxxxxx~~ ground upon which they were arrested by the Gestapo according to this register?

A Yes.

Q What?

A And the reason is a Jew, because they were Jewish.

Q Now you will notice over here in the "disposition column" that these particular Jews were shot or otherwise killed by the Gestapo?

A Yes.

DR. PELKMANN: I have an objection. I don't know whether he saw that they shot. Here it says "shot" once and once here it says "shot", and it says here: "Arrested by the Security Police", not by the Gestapo, and the

H0940-0069

Security Police consist of the Gestapo as criminal police. I should like to question this witness in so far as his ~~xx~~ testimony concerning this book, if he concerned himself officially with this book, or if he has carried any similar books in a similar capacity?

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: These questions, if the Commission please, are by way of foundation to a further question. The witness has testified as to his knowledge of the participation of the Gestapo with the Eichmann group.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I ~~think it is~~ believe it to be admissible.

BY LIEUTENANT HARRIS:

Q And now I wish to call your attention to an entry. This is No. 363, and you will see it involves a Jew arrested by the Security Police of Tomashek, and what is the ground upon which this Jew was arrested?

DR. PELKMANN: I have an objection. The witness is not answering the questions from his own personal ~~knowledge~~ knowledge. He is reading the answers from a book which the Prosecutor might well read himself.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: The witness ~~has indicated~~ has indicated he has knowledge of the Gestapo and the SD and other organizations about which he is being questioned. He is now being submitted a roster which is a roster of arrests made by the Gestapo and the causes of arrest.

H0940-0070

I think it is perfectly apparent he is completely competent to be able to testify with regard to this matter.

DR. PELKMANN: If he says that he knew anything about these matters indicated in this book, if he said that he handled them, the questions may be admissible.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Objection over-ruled You may continue. Lt Harris.

BY LIEUTENANT ~~KH~~ HARRIS:

Q What is the ground upon which this Jew was arrested, as shown by this register?

A It says here at that time the Jews were apprehended outside of the Ghetto.

Q And what was the disposition made of the Jew who committed that crime?

A On the 18th of March, 1943, this Jew was transferred to the Concentration Camp at Auschwitz.

Q All right, I have one more question. Here is case No. 505, and what is the reason he was arrested and where was he sent?

A It says under the current column that the SS men caught him and he was sent to Auschwitz on the 18th of March, 1943.

Q Now, if you will look through the rest of this book you ~~xx~~ will see that some people were sent to other camps such as Gross Rosen, do you know what kind of a camp Camp Rosen was?

A No.

H0940-0071

Q Well now don't you believe that if the Gestapo was sending people, Jews that they apprehended to Auschwitz rather ~~xx~~ than Gross Rosen or some other concentration camp, that these Gestapo officers must have had knowledge of the kind of camp they were sending these people to.

Defense for Gestapo

GERMAN COUNSEL: I would like to make an objection. The witness can scarcely know about the thoughts of the Gestapo, in as much as he also says he has never been there.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: These questions are ~~absolutely~~ reasonable. ~~This is a process of construction.~~ Objection over-ruled Please continue.

~~EXXKXXEUTENXANTXMARKXXXX~~

WITNESS: I suppose that the office/offices concerned with instructions as to which people were to be sent to Auschwitz and which people were to be sent to Rosen, I myself do not know what went on. I personally never worked in a Gestapo office or Gestapo regional office.

BY LIEUTENANT HARRIS:

Q Well now, one of the reasons you have been cross examined, and I say this in order to put you on your guard, is that your credibility is a very important factor. You know that and you know what it means to testify under oath?

A Yes.

H0940-0072

Q Now several times today you have said here in this Court under oath that you personally visited Auschwitz concentration camp?

A Yes.

Q You have said that you visited Auschwitz on two separate occasions?

A Yes.

Q You have said that you actually went into the office of the Commander on one occasion?

A Yes.

Q And then on the other occasion you went and inspected the barracks, kitchen and maybe one or two other buildings?

A Yes.

Q Now that was inside Auschwitz concentration camp, wasn't it?

A This concentration camp site was exceedingly large.

Q Yes, but you were actually on the concentration camp at Auschwitz?

A I suppose so.

Q You suppose so? You testified under oath that you were there?

A Yes.

H0940-0073

Q And you are not mistaken about that? You are not confusing Auschwitz with some labor camp up there in upper Silesia?

A Auschwitz was a concentration camp.

Q And you knew that at the time and you have known it all times since, haven't you?

A At that time Auschwitz was a concentration camp and not a labor camp.

Q You knew that Auschwitz was a concentration camp and you said/you had been in this concentration camp on the 14th day of November, 1945, didn't you?

A The 14th of November, 1945?

Q I mean on the 14th of November, 1945, just as today, you knew that Auschwitz was a concentration camp and that you had been at Auschwitz concentration camp?

A Yes.

Q And on the 14th day of November, 1945, you were interrogated by an officer of the U S army under oath, weren't you?

A I believe so.

Q And I have the record here, so there is no question about it, and on page 7 of this record, it says, as follows:

H0940-0074

"Q Did you visit any other of the concentration areas for Jews?

"A X I was once at a labor camp near Auschwitz, not Auschwitz, but a camp that belonged to that area."

Was that question asked you and did you make that answer?

A May I make an explanation? I said before that this visit was in the vicinity of a Slovak work camp and that on this occasion we visited a work shop and a laundry, places of work, which were situated outside of the camp property, and that is what I meant by my testimony at that time.

Q That is what you mean when you said this:

"I was once at a labor camp near Auschwitz, not Auschwitz."

A This camp was situated several kilometers distance from Auschwitz camp proper and we had to drive there by car.

Q And so when you testified today in response to the Soviet Delegation, that all of these buildings were situated inside, you were not telling the exact truth, were you?

A I distinguished between two things, the kitchen and the barracks, which were situated in the vicinity of the Commanders Office and the carpenter work shop and laundry which lay outside the camp proper, and to which

H0940-0075

we had to drive by car.

Q Now under oath you state now that despite the testimony you have given that you never were inside Auschwitz itself, and you never went inside the Commandants office as you testified a while ago?

A Yes, I said expressly I was in the office of the Commandant.

Q And that was in Auschwitz on that first occasion?

A Yes, on my first visit to Auschwitz I spoke to Von Thadden, and the casino of Auschwitz was inside the camp proper, but immediately opposite the railway station, a long way from the camp.

Q Well then You have never been in the camp in Auschwitz as you testified, have you?

A I don't understand your question.

Q Well I don't wonder you don't understand the question, but let me ask you this: Was the Commandant's casino at Auschwitz or at some other labor camp with another name?

A The casino was situated in the community, in the village of Auschwitz, and that is where I went first.

Q Well I just want to call your attention to what you testified to on the 15th day of November, 1945, when you were asked this question under oath by Colonel Brookhart. He asked you this question:

H0940-0076

"Q. Did you visit - "

Before I ask you this question, I want to ask you another question: Now the place where this Commandant's office was, was that office at the place where the Slovaks were employed?

A In the Commandant's office?

Q Yes, that is the question.

A I saw no Slovaks in the Commandant's office.

Q Of course not. This is the question and this is your answer to the question:

"Q Did you visit Auschwitz?"

That is a clear question, isn't it? Can you answer that "yes" or "no". It is a clear question, isn't it?

A Yes.

Q And here is your answer:

"A. No, I never visited Auschwitz itself but a labor camp in the vicinity of Auschwitz where Slovaks were employed."

"Q. That is the one you referred to earlier today that you visitied?

A. Yesterday, I mentioned it.

You were asked this question and that was your answer, wasn't it?

A Yes.

H0940-0077

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: No further questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Any examination on the part of defense counsel?

DR. PELKMANN: Yes.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: How long will it take.

DR. PELKMANN: Perhaps a little longer. May we ask the Prosecution to submit a copy of the documents of the records of the 14th and 10th of November, so that we can have a look at these documents?

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: The last ones? You mean the interrogation of the 10th and 17th of November? I will furnish those to you.

DR. PELKMANN: Then I would like to ask that we may proceed tomorrow.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: About how long will it take?

DR. PELKMANN: About half an hour.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: We will adjourn until tomorrow.

(The Commission adjourned until 7 June 1946, at 1000 hours)

H0940-0078

The foregoing is a true and corre ct transcript of the testimony of DIETER WISLICENY, taken on 6 June 1946.

Mabel A Lesser
Reporter (pp 1-11

Rose W Cook
Reporter (pp 12-32 & 53 to 76

Pilani A. Ahuna
Reporter (pp 33 to 52

CERTIFIED TO: Ams Near Lt Col
Commissioner

Joseph F Tubridy
Commissioner

H0940-0079

H'FOCOA: TRAMSCRO T PF TESTO, PMU FPR TJE DEFENCE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

6 June 1946.

COMMISSIONERS:

Colonel A.M.S. Neave
Mr. Rasumov

(THE COMMISSION CONVENED AT 1000 HOURS.)

THE SS

DIRECT EXAMINATION RESUMED.

DIETER WISLICENY, a witness, took the stand and testified as follows:

COLONEL NEAVE: Does the witness understand he is still under oath?

THE WITNESS: Yes.

BY DR. PELKMA :

Q Witness, what circle or group of persons within the camp mnew of the destruction or the murders in the camp and who was in actual charge or who performed these liquidations?

A I cannot say that from my own experience. I can only tellthe court what Eichmann told me about this. Eichmann told me that within the camp the number of persons that were in charge or were concerned withthe actual killing would be kept as small as possible, in order to keep the whole thing secret.

COLONEL NEAVE: Do you think we ought to be hearing what Eichmann told him: Ought we not to be hearing what he saw himself?

DR. PELKMAN: He knows these things through Eichmann. I believe it should be admitted for evidenc e in such an important case what he heard through such an important person. Of course if Eichmann could be here I would ask him but Eichmann is dead.

COLONEL NEAVE: Yes, but at the same time I think in general we should hear what the witness knew about from his personal experience. If you bear that point in mind you can go on.

BY.DR. PELKMAN:

Q What experience did you have concerning this. Was the action kept secret or did the information leak out through circles of the SS?

A. I found out through my brother and from relatives, most of whom served in the Waffen SS, that this Action Eichmann was unknown in their circles. I was asked many times by my brother and other members of the SS and Waffen SS why Jews were being deported to the eastern countries and what was happening to them there. I told them that the Jews were being settled in Ghettoes in the East, due to the fact that I had made a special oath to Eichmann. I also had the impression that this was the general opinion concerning the transports to the East.

Q. Of the persons that were in the administration connected with the Eichmann Action how many of them belonged to the SS ?

A. The committee of Eichmann consisted of members of the SS as well as members of the Gestapo who did not belong to the SS. I cannot give the percentage but I would say that quite a large number, especially lower employees, in the Eichmann Committee, or working with Eichmann, were not members of the SS.

Q. Did these members of the Eichmann office that did not belong to the SS also wear the black uniform ?

A. The black uniform was not worn during the war; they wore the gray uniform of the SS with the SD insignia.

Q. But during the war the SS men did wear that gray uniform, didn't they ?

A. Yes, but there always was a difference between the so-called SS men and the so-called uniform wearers.

Q. That was a difference of thought or idea but not a visual difference, was it not ?

A. No, there was no visual difference. It was just a difference of idea or thought concerning it.

DR. PELKMAN: I have no further questions.

COLONEL NEAVE: Thank you, Dr. Pelkman.

DR. WEISGERBER (Defense Counsel for the Gestapo)

COLONEL NEAVE: I understand the SD also wish to ask questions.

DR. GAWLIK: The Gestapo are probably closer connected with the question of the SS and therefore I think it advisable that I question the witness after the Gestapo get through.

H0940-0080

H0940-0081

COLONEL NEAVE: Have you many questions, Dr. Weisgerber ?

DR. WEISGERBER: About nine or ten questions.

COLONEL NEAVE: Will you first of all give us a short statement of what you intend to bring out in the examination ?

DR. WEISGERBER: I want to bring out from this witness the amount of participation of the Gestapo in this Action Eichmann.

COLONEL NEAVE: Is that all ?

DR. WEISGERBER: Yes.

COLONEL NEAVE: All right, go on.

H0940-0082

THE GESTAPO

BY DR. WEISGERBER:

Q In the individual commands of the Security Police were there any special commands or any special groups concerning Action Eichmann?

A Yes, Eichmann had the special commandos or groups which he sent to the individual unit commanders in the Occupied Territories, especially in the Eastern territories, France, or Southeastern territories. These commands or groups were only under the Commanders of the Security Police as far as disciplinary and administrative matters were concerned but received all other orders directly from him.

Q In other words, these special groups, these special task forces, were put in by Eichmann directly?

A Yes, of course with the permission of Mueller, but Eichmann was the person who chose these men, gave them their orders directly and received direct answers and reports from these men.

Q Could the Chiefof the Security Police give these special task groups any orders ?

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: I don't think the translation is exactly accurate. You are saying "Chief" which indicates the Chief. What he means are the Regional Chiefs or Commanders. I believe "Befehlshaber" in this case meant the Regional Chief.

DR. WEISGERBER: Of course there were several Befehlshaber of the Security Police in the Eastern Territories.

COLONEL NEAVE: Go on, please.

Q My question was, could the Regional Chief of the Security Police give any direct orders to members of the special task forces or special commandos?

A Due to the fact that these members of the se task forces or special groups had received or were relying upon direct orders from Mueller, it was impossible for the individual Regional Chiefs to give them any kind of operational orders.

Q To what extent did the Gestapo Offices in the Reich have any idea concerning the settlement of the Jews in the East?

H0940-0083

A I do not quite understand that question. Do you mean, under the term "Settlement in the East" the actual reasons behind the Action Eichmann, or what?

Q That was the first part of my question. My second part, is to what extent did the Gestapo Offices know about the extermination policy of Action Eichmann?

A I wish to answer to the first part of the question that the Gestapo men in the lower offices (lower Gestapo officials) had knowledge of this settlement of the Jews in the East since Jews from all parts of Germany were transported to the East. The second part of the question I believe I answered yesterday when I said that Eichmann only told a very limited circle of people concerning the actual "Endloesung" (Final Solution) under special secretive measures. Of course I cannot say to what extent Eichmann informed the higher State Police officials or the higher SS and Police Leaders. The way he informed me I do not know anything about that.

Q Who had the permission to inform persons not actually connected with the "Final Solution" concerning this task, this mission?

A I cannot say for sure but I believe Eichmann and maybe Mueller. We of course did not have the permission to tell anybody else about it.

Q Of course all other persons, even if they did not belong to the actual mission or the actual task "Final Solution" would be required to keep this measure highly secret?

A I suppose that Eichmann required the same requirements of the other persons he told about this, the real measure, the same way that he required it of me.

Q General information to the Gestapo concerning what was the actual task, the actual reason behind this "Final Solution" was never given --that is, the Gestapo was never informed of that?

A As far as I know, no, because, as I said yesterday, nothing could be put in writing concerningthis.

Q Did members of the Gestapo or Secret State Police accompany any of these transports to the camps in the East?

A As far as I know they were only escorted by escorting troops of the Police.

H0940-0084

DR. WEISGERBER: I have no further questions.

COLONEL NEAVE: Thank you, Dr. Weisgerber.

THE S.D.

DR. GAWLIK (Defense Counsel for the SD): I want to prove that the SD was not responsible for the mass extermination of the Jews and that the Jewish Committee of the SD did not help in the destruction or extermination of the Jews but on the contrary it had worked against this extermination. The evidence is concerning Trial Brief of the Gestapo and SD, VII (A) of the German Edition page 53 Indictment, page 1758 of the German transcript. I will limit my evidence especially to the action of the Jewish Committee with the SD Main Office for the time of 1934 to 1937 and to the question of whether the Jewish Committee of the SD had in any way aided or even made possible the Action Eichmann.

H0940-0085

COLONEL NEAVE: One moment. Will you tell us what qualifications the witness has for talking about the Jewish Committee of the SD?

DR. GAWLIK: I want to prove that in my first question. He was active in this Jewish Committee.

COLONEL NEAVE: All right, go on.

BY DR. GAWLIK:

Q With the first questions I want to prove that the witness has enough information to give this evidence. When were you with the SD?

A I joined the SD on the 5th of July 1934 and stayed with them until 1940, when I was transferred to Amt IV.

Q In what offices of the SD were you active?

A From 1934 until the Spring of 1937 I belonged to the Free Mason Committee, which belonged to Department II (1) of the SD. From the Spring of 1937 until the Fall of 1937, I was Adviser with the Jewish Committee which also belonged to Amt II(1) of the SD Main Office. In November 1937 I was transferred to the SD Group in Danzig and there I stayed until my transfer to Amt IV Eichmann.

Q Were you not at first active in the SD Central Office in 1934?

A In 1934 in the SD Security Office the commission or department that took care of the Free Mason question was called Amt V. In 1935, or it might have been the beginning of 1936, the SD Central Office was changed to the Main Office and the various departments received different designations.

Q The work of the Free Mason Committee might be termed as part of the Conspiracy and therefore I will ask a few questions concerning that also. Tell us in very short terms the work or the task done by this group concerning the Free Mason activity.

A The main duty of this office was a list of all Free Masons within Germany.

Q What basis was used for this list?

A The main lists were received through the official membership lists of the Free Mason Lodges, which could be bought at that time at any book store, or through the police.

Q In other words, these membership lists were available to the public?

H0940-0086

A They were obtainable without any difficulty.

Q What were the further activities in the Free Mason Committee.

A Starting in 1933, perhaps partly through pressure of the Party, Free Mason Lodges started to dissolve.

COLONEL NEAVE: Dr. Gawlik, has the Prosecution accused the SD of persecuting Free Masons? If so, where does it say so.

DR. GAWLIK: It was supposed to be the duty of the SD to eliminate or take out of public life all those persons who were against an Aggressive War or against Crimes Against The Peace, and under that also the Free Masons might be considered.

COLONEL NEAVE: Yes but you said, in brining up this question of Free Masons, that it might be termed as part of the Conspiracy. I want to know whether anybody has actually charged the SD with persecuting Free Masons as distinct from Jews, which was the subject I thought we were dealing with.

DR. GAWLIK: I do not know, but if the Prosecution states that it does not see any criminal action on the part of this Committee on Free Mason affairs, then I will not have to finish my questioning.

COLONEL NEAVE: That is not my question. I am asking you whether the Prosecution charged the SD with such. It is only with the idea of saving time that I am raising this question.

DR. GAWLIK: (Reading) ....A check of the trustworthiness of State officials or state employees of the measure of complete surrenders to the Nazi point of view and Hitler's leadership.

COLONEL NEAVE: I cannot see that this subject comes within the statements that you have made a short time ago as to what you were going to bring up through this witness.

DR. GAWLIK: I only made it because the witness just mentioned the Free Masons.

COLONEL NEAVE: Well I think you should limit that to one more question and then continue on your original theme.

DR. GAWLIK: I will ask one further questions concerning this point.

BY DR. GAWLIK:

Q Was it the duty of this Free Mason Committee to take any persons out

H0940-0087

of public life that would oppose an Aggressive War or a Crime Against the Peace'

A I can only say concerning this that all I know is that if the Nazi Party (NSDAP) wanted to have some information about a person who wanted to enter the National Socialist Party, then we gave it to them because the NSDAP had certain rules and regulations they were following concerning the admittance of such former Free Masons.

Q Can you answer this question Yes or No? The question is whether persons would be taken out of public life that would oppose War Crimes or Crimes Against the Peace.

A I cannot answer this question Yes or No. All I can say is that in 1934 I did not know that an aggressive war was planned and all I could say was that the Party did not want certain former Free Masons within its rolls.

H0940-0088

COLONEL NEAVE: Let us go on to your original point.

Q When was the Jewish Committee organized?

A The Jewish Committee with the SD Main Office was organized in 1936.

Q Up to that time were any Jewish questions discussed by the SD?

A The Jewish question belonged to the Department Free Mason until 1936, but no actual activity concerning this phase was actually done.

Q How large or what was the number of persons on this Committee ?

A This committee was very small. When I entered it there were eight persons init.

Q What was the organization of this committee?

A The committee had three basic fields which were themselves adjusted to the inner political and economic situation of the Jews. The fields were: the Zionist question, the Assimilation of the Jews, and the Orthodox Jews.

COLONEL NEAVE: Can he explain what he means by "assimilation."

A Under "Assimilation" we understood people that lived as citizens and considered themselves citizens of the country they lived in. Those were the three committees or the three groups within the committee.

Q Tell us very briefly the activity or the duty of the Jewish Committee within the SD Main Office.

A As the grouping of this committee already shows, the Jewish matter was a purely political matter. We were interested in the inner political actions of the Jews and not in their connection with either the German State or any other State. This committee was not concerned with the Jewish question as it was brought out in Streicher's " Der Stuermer" but in a pure matter such as of a group or nationality. It was the duty of this committee to study this in order to get away from the purely propaganda matters of the Jewish question.

Q You go too far from the point. Is it true that the activities of this committee was to receive reports and pass on reports?

A Yes.

Q Where did they get these reports or the material for these reports?

A From two sources. These sources were the lower SD Offices, that is the Unterabschnitte and Oberabschnitte of the SD and also from certain trustworthy confidence men that we had connected with the SD Main Office directly.

Q Were these confidence men members of the SD only or also members of other organizations?

A No, they did not belong. Not all of our confidence men belonged to the SD. In fact most of our important and main confidence men did not belong to the SD, the SA, the SS, or any such organization.

Q Did any members or people opposed to the NSDAP belong to your confidence men?

A I cannot answer that question directly. However, I can say that I am certain that some of our confidence men did have connection with these groups.

Q Did any Jews belong to your confidence groups?

A Directly, no.

Q Did they belong to it indirectly?

A Yes. I say this because our confidence men reported to us from Palestine concerning the Zionist question and the new developments within Palestine which referred to Jewish sources.

Q Where did your reports go?

A They went to Heydrich.

(A recess was taken)

COLONEL NEAVE: You may go on.

BY DR. GAULIK:

Q Do you know what Heydrich's opinion toward the Jewish question was?

A To a certain extent, yes.

Q Where do you know that from?

A I just want to explain it. We received purely technical reports from Heydrich with the notation that he considered them too technical or too sterile to try.

Q I understand you know that from statements by Heydrich?

A Yes, those notations or those remarks were written on the reports when they came back.

Q What was Heydrich's point of view toward the Jewish question?

A I say that he had a much sharper attitude toward the Jewish question than was the attitude of the higher political leaders of the National Socialist Party, such as Rosenberg and others.

H0940-0089

H0940-0090

Q The Prosecution states that Heydrich envisaged as the final solution of the Jewish question the imprisonment and murder of all Jews. I am referring to page 1761 of the German transcript, is that correct. And is it also correct concerning a counter order of 1936 and 1937?

H0940-0091

A I cannot say myself exactly what Heydrich envisaged as the final solution of the Jewish question.

Q You are not supposed to now say what he thought, but only what you can state from his remarks and his notations on the edge of these reports.

A In that time, in 1937, such a vision by Heydrich was not evident through his remarks on his reports.

Q Have you found through statements and notations what he thought was the final solution of the Jewish question?

A I am of the opinion at that time Heydrich was not especially interested in this problem.

Q Did the Jewish committee of the SD aid in Heydrich's sharp stand or sharp ideas concerning the Jewish question?

A I said that he did not like the kind of our reports and the nature of our reports.

Q Maybe you can answer this question first of all with a "yes" or "no".

A No.

Q Can you give a reason for this anwer?

A We brought out in these reports, as a final conclusion, that the anschluss of the Jews should be aided and expedited. The reason for this conclusion was that the Jews themselves wanted to leave Germany due to the fact that Germany's laws did not give them any possible chance of existence. We also regarded at that time that the Zionist question, that is, a Jewish State in Palesti ne, was entirely within our interest.

Q The prosecution also claims that it was the duty of the Jewish Committee of the SD to give information concerning Jews to the Gest apo, is that correct?

A As long as I was on this Committee we did not give any such information. At that time there was no close liaison between the Jewish Committee of the SD and the Jewish Committee of the Gestapo.

Q Did you receive any material concerning the Jews from the Gestapo?

A I cannot remember that we received any important information from the Gestapo.

Q I ask you now as a final conclusion to this, if that on this theme and from your experience and your knowledge, was there any connection between the Jewish Committee of the SD and later on the final solution of the Jewish question as it turned out to be. To save time I want to give the directions in which you are to answer this question. Did the Jewish Committee of the SD aid in anyway this final solution or anschluss of the Jewish question, or did the Jewish Committee have just the opposite duty and the opposite goal, that is, to come to a peaceful settlement of the Jewish question or was it the goal of the Jewish Committee of the SD to aid the Jews in obtaining their rightful place for existence among the nations of the world?

COLONEL NEAVE: That is a long and involved question. Do you think the witness has understood that?

WITNESS: I cannot answer this long question with a yes or no.

COLONEL NEAVE: The questions should be asked separately.

BY DR. GAWLIK:

Q Did the Jewish Committee with the SD in any way aid the final "Endloesung" or the final solution of the Jewish question, that is, in the years 1936 and 1937.

A We did not make any suggestions at that time and it was neither within the scope of work nor the goal of the Jewish Committee of the SD, it was not within the duty or scope of the Committee to come to a conclusion, that is a final solution, as it was later on arrived upon, that is, in 1942.

COLONEL NEAVE: I don't understand the answer; Wasn't the question whether the Committee had any connection with this endloesung as it eventually turned out?

H0940-0092

DR. GAULIK: Yes.

COLONEL NEAVE: Ask the witness to clarify the answer.

WITNESS: The Jewish Committee of the SD did not prepare this final solution, nor did it, through it's reports in any way, aid in the accomplishment of it.

BY DR. GAULIK:

Q. Was the goal or duty of the Jewish Committee just the opposite of the final solution as it was later on arrived upon?

A. In our reports we suggested that the only way to settle or to come to a final settlement of the Jewish question, was a peaceful emigration, in other words, as it was arrived upon later on.

Q. You worked later on with the Jewish Committee of the SD in Danzig. Was this activity typical of the activity in all of Germany?

A. To a certain extent, yes. However, there were some basic state differences for Danzig as there were from the rest of Germany.

Q. Since it was not typical in it's entire extent I do not ask any questions concerning this. I now come to the second point, and that is the cooperation of the SD in the actions of Eichmann. Did you receive your appointment or your tramsfer to Amt IV due to your previous experience with the Jewish Committee of the SD and in your work later on with the Jewish Committee in Danzig?

A. No, I received the appointment only through my personal acquaintance with Eichmann.

Q. In other words, would you have received this appointment by Eichmann also if you had not been in the Jewish Committee of the SD?

COLONEL NEAVE: Wait a minute. I don't think we can have questions as to what would have happened. We would like a question on what did happen.

BY DR. GAULIK:

Q. Did you hear or did you feel through statements by Eichmann that your transfer to the Committee of Eichmann was purely from personal acquaintanceship?

A. Yes. I would like to explain the position of Eichmann to prove that

H0940-0093

it was only for personal reasons I was appointed on this Committee.. Eichmann was the first outsider that came into the Gestapo through his personal acquaintanceship with Heydrich. This position in the Gestapo, therefore, was very difficult and he attempted to take only such persons into his commission that he knew personally and ones he thought he could trust.

Q. Did you through some statements by Eichmann find out, or would you suggest that for the appointment of other officers of this committee, only personal reasons would prevail?

A. The persons that were appointed to the Committee were long, old acquaintences of Eichmann and he knew each one of them.

Q. Were only these old acquaintences transferred to the Jewish Committee of Eichmann?

A. No, there also were others who came from other departments, but he knew them personally.

Q. Were only members of the SD appointed to this Committee?

A. No, we also received men from the State Police.

Q. Were the people that had formerly worked in the Jewish Committee of the SD especially suitable for the work in the Committee of Eichmann?

M. MONNERAY: Is it possible to get the last answer in English?

COLONEL NEAVE: Will you read the answer, please.

(The last question and answer is read by the Reporter)

COLONEL NEAVE: Let's have the question and answer again. Did he take people from other organizations?

BY DR. GAULIK:

Q. Was the Committee also strengthened by members of other organizations?

A. Yes, Eichmann also graded and enlarged the staff with Members of the Gestapo and State Police.

COLONEL NEAVE: Now go on.

H0940-0094

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BY DR. GAULIK:

Q. Were those persons who formerly worked in the Jewish Committee of the SD especially suitable for the work in the Commission of Eichmann?

A. Yes, they did have some actual knowledge of the matter, but the matters concerning this commission or committee, were entirely different from what they had worked on previously.

Q. Isn't it true that these men worked on the Jewish question from the scientific point of view?

A. Yes, from the scientific and political viewpoint.

Q. Was there any connection between the interior intelligence information, Amt III, and the foreign intelligence Amt 6 or 7, on the one hand, and the Jewish or Eichmann Committee on the other hand?

A. So far as I can judge, no.

Q. Was there also no connection between the chiefs of these amts Ohlendorf and Sichs on one hand and Eichmann on the other?

A. The connection to Ohlendorf and Sichs was not different, but I know that it was in opposition to Schellenberg.

Q. I did not mean personal connection. I mean official connection?

A. I speak of the official connection.

DR. GAULIK: No further questions.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q. Will you tell me whether the Hauptsturmfuehrer Brunner was a member of the SD?

A. As far as I know, yes.

Q. And what about Hans Gunther?

A. He was originally with the SD, but I think he later went to the Gestapo, State Police.

H0940-0096

Q. What about Otto Hinsche?

A. Hinsche was a member of the Gestapo.

Q. He has not been a member of the SD?

A. No.

Q. And Franz Novak?

A. I don't know for sure, but I believe he was a member of the SD.

Q. And Hartenberger?

A. Hartenberger belonged to the Inspector of the Security Police in Vienna, and he was connected with a group consisting of S D and Gestapo. I don't know under what personnel list he was carried.

Q. And as such Inspector, he was Inspector at the same time for the Gestapo and the SD?

A. Yes.

Q. Then Dr. Seidl?

A. He was from the SD.

Q. And Dannecker?

A. Dannecker came from the SD.

Q. And Krumey?

A. As far as I know, Krumey did not come from the SD. He did not belong to the SD. He belonged to the immigration or resettlemen anschluss.

Q. And this organition was a part of what organization?

A. I believe it belonged to the Reichsfuhrung SS.

Q. And Burger?

A. Burger also was with the Inspector of the Security Police and the SD in Vienna.

Q. All of those people remained in the organization with Eichmann?

A. Yes, may I mention a few more names that belonged to the closer group or circle of Eichmann?

Q. All of those people were at the same time members of the SS ? And Hunsche?

A. No, he was a so-called uniform fuehrer, and he was also

H0940-0097

Hauptsturmfuchrer in the SD.

Q. You told us this morning that you left the SD when you got your new job with Eichmann.

A. Yes, when I was transferred to his office.

H0940-0098

Q Now when you were interrogated by Colonel Brookhart on the 15th of November in the morning, you told this officer, that in September, 1944, during your meeting with Mueller you requested to be permitted to re-enter the Security Police, and on the question of Colonel Brookhart:

"Q The Security police of Security Service?" you answered: "Both", is that correct?

A Yes.

Q So you were in September, 1944, a member of both, isn't that so?

A I think the conference with Mueller was a little bit later and I belonged to the SD and the Gestapo, having been transferred from the SD to the Gestapo.

Q But why did you tell us this morning that you left in 1940, the SD?

A I meant to infer on leaving, since the date of the transfer is 1940, I did not receive any orders any more from either Amt 3, 6 or 7.

Q When you were in Slovakia and Bratislava from whom did you get your pay?

A I received my pay from the SD and my expense account and daily expense money from the Gestapo and State Police.

Q So both paid you?

A Yes.

Q Eichmann was a member of the SD, wasn't he?

A Yes, originally he belonged to the SD

Q You don't know whether he continued to be paid by the SD?

A I believe that he, as well as his deputy, Goethe, were later on taken over completely by the Gestapo.

Q Was Eichmann actually independent or did he receive his instructions from Mueller?

A He received them from Mueller.

Q And Mueller was the head of the Gestapo, wasn't he?

H0940-0099

A Yes.

Q What do you call that Emsatzkomannando?

A The Emsatzkommandos or groups were, as far as I know, groups or task forces, which were used outside Germany to carry out the Security Police Measurers.

INTERPRETER: The witness said the Emsatzkommandos of the Security Police and SD.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q You told us this morning that very often the agents of the Emsatzkommandos were working for the different countries and were completely independent, and got their orders directly from Berlin, isn't that so?

A I want to limit my answer to such an extent that I know of certain countries were this condition prevailed. I cannot make this statement for all countries.

Q For instance?

A I know that this was the case in France. I know it was my case in Slovakia. I know it was the case of Greece. I know that was the case in Bulgaria. I know it was the case in Hungary also in Croatia. I know it was the case in Roumania and Denmark. Concerning the other countries I do not know.

Q When Eichmann sent agents into one of those countries in order to bring about a final solution of the Jewish question, for instance, he used a very small number of agents, I suppose, isn't that true?

A They were mostly very small troups with the exception of Hungary where he went down himself and took almost his entire staff along.

Q What was the average number of the members of those groups?

A I know that in Greece, for instance, this group consisted of about six men.

Q And in France have you any idea?

A In France also Bruner had a special group with him which consisted of about ten men.

H0940-0100

Q And before Gruner Dammecker?

A Dammecker also brought a small staff with him

H0940-0101

to France.

Q. Do you know, Hagn, SS Sturmbamfuhrer ?

A. Yes.

Q. Was he a member of the SD ?

A. Yes.

Q. And Kiefer ?

A. I don't know him.

Q. And Lischka ?

A. He was a member of the Gestapo.

Q. Schmidt, Oberstrumfuhrer ?

A. I do not know.

Q. And Thilmann.

A. I don't know him.

Q. And Sommer ?

A. I don't know him.

Q. And Heinricksohn ?

A. I don't know him.

Q. Now, in the different occupied countries where those Commando had to work they had the commission to realize the transportation and deportation of thousands and thousands of people, isn't that so ?

A. Yes.

DR. GAULIK: I want to object. I believe the evidence presented here is only supposed to be concerning Ensatzkommandos.

M. MONNERAY: I am only asking questions about it.

COLONEL MEYER: Didn't the activity of the Einsatzkommandos involve the transporting of Jews ?

DR. GAULIK: I am not really sure what Einsatzkommandos we are talking about.

M. MONNERAY: We are talking about agents of Eichmann in the different occupied territories in order to realize the solution of the Jewish question.

DR. PELKMANN: I wish, so that no mistake will be made, that the Einsatzkommandos will not be used in connection with this action, since they were an entirely different group.

H0940-0102

COLONEL NEAVE: Yes, that does seem to be so.

DR. PELKMANN: It has been treated before in the Court and these Einsatzkommandos were mentioned and talked about in an entirely different background.

COLONEL NEAVE: Go on.

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: I would like to join my colleague on this matter as I understood the statement of proof put forth by the counsel for the SS was that he was trying to prove by this witness what was meant by this term "final solution".

COLONEL NEAVE: I am going to allow Mr. Monneray to go on. I said it seems that these Einsatzkommandos were different from the agents. When I said, "Ithink that is so", I was referring to this difference. I think, therefore, Dr. Gawlik, the cross examination should proceed, and it does refer to the Einsatzkommandos.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q. How did the agents of Eichmann in the different occupied territories realize this very heavy task of taking that point of view, especially to organize the arrest, the concentration and the transportation of thousands of people ?

A. They used for this the local SS and police leaders, the local police group that were available.

Q. So in the technical realization the police and the army and the SD cooperated in this task, isn't that so ?

A. It was mostly the order police that was used in it. I don't know personally of any cases where members of the SD were used to transport these Jews. I want to point out especially it was mostly the full armed police detachments that were used for this purpose.

H0940-0103

Q Now during an interrogation on the 17th of November by Colonel Brockhart in the afternoon you were questioned on the deportation of Hungarian Jews, a happening in July, 1944, and Colonel Brockhart asked you who was guarding the deportation or transfer and you answered it was guarded at that time by the Commander of the Security Police in Budapest?

A Yes, I said yesterday that this was the one and only case that I know of where members of the Waffen SS, that is Germans of foreign origin, who had been drafted into the Waffen SS, and it was the only case I know of that they were used to guard these transports.

Q Under whose jurisdiction was the Jewish question, under the jurisdiction of the commander of the Security Police or under the jurisdictic of the Commanders of the SD?

A For instance in Poland, according to an order of Himmler, the Jewish question was a matter of the higher SS and police leaders. In other occupied countries this special group of agents of Eichmann were included in the staff of the Security Police and SD. It depended on whether Eichmann considered this country, according to its number of Jews, important or not.

Q When he considered this question as important, what did he do?

A Then he sent into these countries a special group. He specially sent in special groups of Sonderkommandos into these countries if he considered the border police and Schutzepolizei not sufficient and the security police and SD not energetic enough.

Q So in other countries your Sonderkommandos had completed the task of the Commander in Chief of the SD?

A It might be better to say instead of "complete" to use the word "accelerate."

Q Which was the first problem when you had to realize the deportation of Jews in some foreign country?

A These orders concerning the deportation of the Jews in these foreign countries started in1941, and beginning in 1942,first Eichmann ordered the registration of allJews in that country. Then when this registration was completed he named the time when this deportation should start. He, when the deportation was supposed to start, or about to start, he came to the country

H0940-0104

himself in order to discuss the measures concerning the deportation, with the army, with the police and the political leaders.

Q How did the Germanauthorities realize this first stage of that registration of the Jews?

A Eichmann used mostly the local police officers for the police administration.

Q And if he met any resistance on the part of the foreign police authorities, what were the measures to overcome this resistance?

A I don't knowof any point personally where he met any resistance at that point.

DR. PELKMANN: I have an objection. I would like to find out before we continue this line of questioning whether the witness has any information on this point or whether he only has information concerning his activities in Saloniki?

M. MONNERAY: May I state something?

COLONEL NEAVE: Go on, Mr. Monneray.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q Anyhow the German authorities had to supervise those first steps taken by the local police, isn't that so?

A I believe that they controlled and checked these measures.

Q Do you know which authority was most acceptable for this work of controlling or supervision?

A May I make an objectionto this?

COLONEL NEAVE: What does he say?

INTERPRETER: He wants to make an objection.

COLONEL NEAVE: Let him answer the question.

H0940-0105

WITNESS:

A It was different in the various countries. For instance, we did not have such control in Slovakia, and for instance in Saloniki the registration was not made by the local police but by the Jewish Community which was ordered to do that by the Military Commanders.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q You didn't answer my question. I asked you not who realized it but who supervised this registration? Was it the ordnungspolizei?

A At times the order police was also used, but mostly it was men sent down by Eichmann, representatives of Eichmann.

Q You have told us that Eichmann only sent a very few number of people and how could eight or ten men supervise the registration of thousands and thousands of Jews?

A As a rule there was not a very complete control of this registration, but just a spot check.

Q Was it necessary for this purpose to know exactly the political situation in the occupied territories?

A Yes.

Q Was it necessary to have a certain number of agents in the nationally occupied territories in service in order to control this registration?

A Yes.

Q Was it necessary to have an intelligence and net of information in order to carry out this task of supervision?

A I don't understand the question.

Q I will answer you once more. In order to supervise the activities of the local police and the registration of the Jews, was it necessary to have officers trained in this sort of intelligence work?

A There were groups in virtually every country that due to their political and personal convictions worked together voluntarily with the occupying power.

COLONEL NEAVE: We will adjourn and you may continue your cross examination after lunch.

(A recesswas taken until 1400 hours).

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DIETER WISLECENY -- Resumed

CROSS EXAMINATION -- Continued

(The Commission reconvened at 1400 hours)

COMMISSIONERS:

Captain Joseph Tubridy
M. Martin-Havad

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q Witness, I would like to know what the mission of the SD in the occupied territories, so far as those activities in relation and connection with your work were concerned.

A I did not, or would not cooperate and had no connection with the office of the SD in the occupied territories. Handling the Jewish question was exclusively the work of AMT IV since 1939.

Q Witness, did you tell us, yes or no, that all the German services in the occupied territories had to cooperate with the agencies of Eichmann in order to realize the deportation of the Jews?

A Yes, if requested.

Q Do you maintain that the SD, if asked for it, did not intervene in this realization?

A The SD could not avoid not following such an order.

DR. GAWLIK: I would like to raise an objection because the question is a mere speculation. The question whether the SD actually cooperated when requested to do so should be asked.

M. MONNERAY: There is no speculation at all since the witness admitted this morning that most of the close cooperators of Eichmann were members of the SD. Secondly, the witness admitted this morning that a very small number

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of the special agencies of Eichmann sent into the occupied territories made necessary the cooperation of the local German services, and third, those services were, according to the words of the witness, "The German Army, Security Police, and the SD."

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: The question will be allowed.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q We were talking this morning about the preparations for the deportati of the Jews. Do you admit that the main task of the SD, inside and outside of Germany was intelligence?

A Yes, the SD was an intelligence organization.

Q Was it the task of the SD to gather as much intelligence as possible concerning the occupied territories, the attitude of the local governments, the willingness of foreign governments to execute German requests, to make research in order to find enemies of Germany? Will you answer yes or no.

A I do not feel capable of answering this question as I never worked in the SD in the occupied territories.

Q Did you cooperate with the German Commissioners of the Security Police and the SD in the occupied territories?

A Yes.

Q Did you give them any orders?

A No, I did not.

Q Did you transmit any orders?

A Those that I received from Eichmann, yes.

Q Did those orders implicate the agencies enumerated in the performance of the different missions and tasks which were necessary in order to realize the deportation of the Jews?

A These orders only referred to the deportation of Jews.

Q And to the arrest of the Jews?

A And to the arrest for purposes of deportation.

Q And the order for the arrest indicated the necessity of arrests, isn't that so?

A Yes.

Q And you admitted this morning the preparation of arrests made

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necessary research work for intelligence work, isn't that so?

A I said registration of the persons.

Q And the Commissioners of the Security Police and SD were entitled to transmit those orders and instructions at the same time to the SD and the Security Police?

A As far as the use of police employees was concerned, the Commissioner of the Security Police and SD turned to the Higher Police and SS Fuehrer as the main command for these matters.

Q Was the Commissioner of the Security Police and SD under the command or the authority of the Higher Police leaders?

A Yes.

Q I would like to show you document RF-120. It is a report of Dannecher working in France as an agent of Eichmann according to your testimony He says:

"Until now three great actions against the Jewry in Paris have been stopped. Each time the Dienststelle was here, they were responsible for the selection of the Jews to be arrested and for the whole preparation and technical execution of these actions."

Now, does he mean by Dienststelle this whole agency?

A Yes, I imagine so, otherwise he would have used the letters BDS or KDS.

Q And he was entitled to get the cooperation of the BDS for the execution of this work, isn't it so?

A Yes, certainly.

Q When special agents went to the different occupied territories, sometimes pressure had to be carried out against local governments in order to obtain their cooperation, isn't it so?

A I can only testify as to the countries in which I myself have been.

Q Have you been in France?

A No, I have never been there.

Q Have you been in Czechoslovakia?

A Yes. No diplomatic pressure or any pressure was put on the Czechoslovakian Government in this respect. However, in Hungary, certain

H0940-0109

diplomatic pressure was put on their government concerning this question.

Q By which channel was this pressure exercised?

A I know of Hungary, and those channels were the German Ambassador . .

Q From whom did he get his information?

A Concerning the Jewish question?

Q As far as the attitude of the Hungarian politicians were concerned.

A He received information firmly from the German Foreign Office.

Q To what extent did the German Police and representatives of the German Security Police in Budapest cooperate?

A I know that in Budapest, for example, the Commissioner always had the contrary opinion of the Ambassador, the Chief of the Amt VI, Foreign Intelligence, so that there was no direct handing down of information on this question in Hungary.

Q But the director of Amt VI was in touch with the German Ambassador, wasn't he?

A Yes.

Q You told us this morning when you were in the SD you had no connection at all with the Gestapo?

A My testimony referred to my work in the Jewish question division in 1927.

Q Do you maintain that the reports coming out of the SD service were not transmitted to the Gestapo?

DR. GAWLIK: I raise objection to this question because the witness was named by me only to testify as to the Jewish question. He was interrogated on this question, and therefore can only answer as to the connection of the Gestapo to the Jewish question.

M. MONNERY: The testimony of the witness this morning about the activity of the SD was perfectly clear, and his testimony has to be checked by the Prosecution as to its credibility. The witness has been in the SD from 1934 to 1940. He has been, afterwards, a member of the SD, so as to his credibility, it is necessary to check whether or not he is maintaining that the SD had no connection with the Gestapo.

CAPT. TUBRIDY: Dr/ Gawlik I appreciate your objection, but I would like to say that in cross examination, it is quite impossible to restrict the questioning in view of the close intertwining of all of these organizations, and it would be quite proper in corss examination, to find out exactly how much knowledge this witness has of these matters generally.

DR. GAWLIK: I have no objection if the witness if first asked whether he worked in any division of the SD, and how far his knowledge concerning these divisions is, then after the question has been asked, I have no objection. But, up to now, we have only heard the witness only worked on the Jewish question.

CAPT. TUBRIDY: This is not direct examination, Dr. Gawlik and this is cross examination, and more latitude is allowed.

M. MONNERAY: Witness, the first question, you were in the SD . . .

DR. GAWLIK: Col. Neave said, or told us, that also in cross examination the prosecution was to confine its examination to thematter of the testimony that is supposed to be presented, and that is one of the reasons why weare to present in writing what we wanted to prove.

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COL. SMYRNOV: I do not quite see why Counsel for the defense objects to these questions being put because in examination the witness was asked about several different matters including free masonry, therefore I quite agree with my colleague that they should be put.

CAPT. TUBRIDY: Let's get on, Dr. Gawlik. The objection was overruled, the question permitted, and I tried to explain why. You may proceed, M. Monneray.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q You have been in Danzig in the SD in 1937, have you not?

A Yes.

Q What was your mission in Danzig?

A I was consultant on questions concerning free masonry and Jewry, and opposition groups in which the Department of II A of the Reich Main Office concerned itself.

Q So, in all those three years, you were not only dealing with the Jewish question?

A No.

Q Therefore, I think our question is quite in the scope of the knowledge of this witness.

During those three years, did you have any connection with the Gestapo?

A Yes.

Q What were these connections?

A First of all, a personal connection. I personally knew the different consultants of the Gestapo who worked on these questions. At different times, not very often, but at intervals, I visited these consultants in order to get reports and information about the work they carried on.

Q So the Gestapo was merely an executive mission?

A Yes, exclusively.

Q And your mission was of information?

A Yes.

Q And your information was transmitted to the Gestapo?

A No, our information was sent through the channel of our immediate superior office, that is, the SD superior section, and the Reichsminister's section office in Berlin. We were not subofdinated to the Gestapo of Danzig

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and we were by no means an auxiliary organization.

Q Your mission was to find political opposition, wasn't it?

A Not to find out the opposition movements, we knew that they existed, but to find out the activities of the opposition movements.

Q And the Gestapo applied the consequence according to this information, isn't that so?

A The Gestapo concerned itself with the individual case, that is, with the individual members who had at that time opposed or committed anything against laws of the State at that time. But our activity, on the otherhand, our mission was to report on the great currents, the opposition currents, that were at work within the Reich itself, and to find out how and what effect the mission had in combatting these oppositions.

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Q And other services had to direct their conclusions out of these reports, didn't they?

A Yes, the State.

Q And the report of the State was the State police, wasn't it, since the State police had the mission to find the political opposition? Will you answer yes or no, please?

A Would you please repeat the question?

M. MONNERAY: Perhaps the reporter will read it back.

REPORTER: And the report of the State was the State police, wasn't it, since the State police had the mission to find the political opposition?

WITNESS: The State police was one of the representatives of the State.

BY M. MONNERAY:

Q May I just read to you an excerpt of an article from the Die Deutsche Polizei, document PS-1680, USA 477.

The successful combating of all activities was tied to the State by the Security Police and can be traced back to a considerable extent to the intelligence abwehr of the SD."

Is this a correct statement?

A I can say that in the office where I was, and during the time I was there, there was no direct inter-change of information and news except very occasionally, and that no information was handed down to the Gestapo by the SD. May I say, in explanation, that as far as I know, when I was a member of the SD, the Gestapo always considered the SD as interfering with the business of the Gestapo, and considered it as a superfluous organization.

Q Now, the special agents of Eichmann in the occupied territories could ask the cooperation of the Army authorities, isn't that so?

A Not directly, only through the channels of the Higher SS and Police Leader.

Q And in 1940?

A In general?

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Q Yes.

A As far as I know, no deportation took place in 1940.

Q 1941?

A The predecessor of the Higher SS and Police Leaders in the occupied territories were usually representatives of the Higher SS and Police Leaders, and to them this information was sent.

Q Those higher Commissioners of the Police and SD tried to request the assistance of the Army in order to carry out the measure against the Jews, didn't they?

A They higher SS and Police leaders usually turned in such cases to the competent Army commissioner, and if necessary, asked them for cooperation.

Q So they asked the police first, the German Security police, and the Army forces for help, is that correct?

A If necessary, yes.

M. MONNERAY: I have no further questions.

BY COL. SMYRNOW:

Q I have a few short questions which I would like to place to the witness.

You probably remember your testimony before the Court on 3 January. I don't want to deal with these questions, I only want to refer to that part in which you said Eichmann was the Chief of Department 4A4.

A Yes, Eichmann was head of this division.

Q I believe that there is a misunderstanding here, and that you mean Eichmann was the head of 4B4.

A May I explain this misunderstanding?

The division was known, from 1940 until 1943, as division 4B4. Not until the end of 1943 was this name changed into Division 4A4B.

Q I am interested in this because all the documents, or all the correspondence concerning the mass destruction of Jews bear, at the bottom, the term 4A4B, and this was in 1942, October,

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and the beginning of 1943.

A Yes, that is right.

Q Tell me, in what occupied territories were there agencies of Eichmann?

A This is reported in the diagram that I submitted yesterday.

Q France, Holland, Belgium. At first, this work was forbidden in France and Belgium, together with Holland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Greece, and a special mission was commissioned to remain here in order to aid Rumania.

A That was only one special deputy of Eichmann called Richtser.

Q Was there an agent of Eichmann in Poland?

A No.

Q In the Baltic countries?

A No.

Q In Byelo-Russia (Ruthenia)?

A No.

Q In the Ukraine?

A No.

Q In Crimea?

A No.

Q Would you please tell us who the agents of Eichmann were who carried out his mass execution of Jews in the Ukraine, Croatia, Crimea, and the Caucasus?

A These actions in the Eastern district were separated from the other actions of Eichmann.

Q I refer you to a document of which you spoke on 3 January. It is dated April, 1942, and is an order by Himmler concerning the destruction of Jews in general and include the territories of the Soviet Union and also of the enumerated territories.

A Yes, certainly, but the actions, the mass destruction executed in these territories were not carried out by Eichmann, but by action groups. Eichmann personally told me that the final solution in these territories had been turned over to the action groups.

Q Yes, I am of your opinion, but in this case, the circle of people who knew of these things was considerably larger than you maintain.

A That may be true. In my testimony I confined myself to the circle surrounding Eichmann and the mission in Russia was not his immediate task.

Q Was there an agent of Eichmann in Croatia ?

A Yes.

Q What relation was there between Eichmann and the action group Croatia ?

A The agent of Eichmann was subordinate to the police attache in Sabgrad and was not subordinated to the action group.

Q Was this action group subordinated to Eichmann's agent or were they only connected ?

A I don't know exactly, I only know that Eichmann's agent had his office at the police attache's office, and had some connection with the action group.

Q The action group carried out the action independently, therefore it was not necessary to take care of the deportation into concentration camps, is that right ?

A I don't know when an action group was sent to Croatia or how long it was there.

Q This action group, this mobile police formation, came to Croatia at the end of 1942 and was there until 1943.

A Eichmann's agent had already been sent to Croatia in 1941. I don't know whether he did his work there after the mobile police formation was sent there.

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Q I want to put a few questions to you concerning dealing with the division Eichmann. Before 1936 there was no special division treating Jewish questions, isn't that so ?

A Yes.

Q Was the division that concerned itself with questions of Free Masonry also concerning itself with the Jewish question ? I am now speaking of the time before 1936.

A Yes.

Q I want to ask you, if, in the course of 1941, 1942, 1943, there was a special department in Amt III which concerned itself with the Jewish question ?

A No.

Q Would it be right to say that the division that was formerly in Amt III and concerned itself with Jewish questions was later transferred, after 1940, to Amt IV ?

A There was always been a Jewish question division in Amt IV. The Jewish question division with the SD was dissolved in 1939.

Q And, at that time, in 1939, their entire personnel was transferred from Amt III into the Gestapo ?

A No, not until Eichmann took over this division at the end of 1939 and the beginning of 1940. Then, in the course of the years, he had one man after another who came into his division.

Q I want to ask you whether the intelligence net that concerned itself with information was also transferred from Amt III to Amt IV ?

A Yes.

Q Would it be right to say that in 1940, the Jewish question division of Amt III concerned itself with intelligence and Amt IV had police executive work ?

A That is correct.

Q And after 1940 the intelligence and executive work was merged into Amt IV B EV ?

A Yes.

Q Please tell me when you were in Auschwitz, tell me the exact time ?

A I was in Auschwitz twice.

Q When were you there first ?

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A In May, 1942.

Q And when were you in Auschwitz for the second time ?

A It was in the Summer of 1942, either at the end of July or the beginning of August.

Q And will you please tell me which area of Auschwitz you were in, Birkenau or in Monowitz ?

A I was at the commandant's office of Auschiwitz, and I don't know in which one of these localities it was situated.

Q Did you visit Obersturmbannfuehrer Libygenscher ?

A At both times, and also later, I spoke to Oberstrumbannfuehrer Hoess.

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Q. Did you see Obersturmbannfuehrer Polatscheh ?

A. No.

Q. Sturmbannfuehrer Berg ?

A. I only remember a man called Aumueller or Aumeyer.

Q. A Hauptsturmfuehrer ?

A. Yes, he accompanied Hoess.

Q. When you visited the main section of the camp, did you not see how the gas chambers were operated ?

A. No, the first time I visited Auschwitz I only saw Hoess and spoke to him in the casino. The second time I visited Auschwitz, I was accompanied by a Slovakian journalist and we were only shown a carpenter's work shop, a kitchen, and one of the barracks. The entire visit took about one hour at that time.

Q. Then, you visited only essentially, the medical block and the block of the labor command ?

A. The barracks and kitchen that we visited were quite near the commandant's office.

Q. In this case, I want to submit a document to you concerning the interrogation of my colleague that was found in one of the common graves near Riga. I should like to know who ordered that the identity papers of the Jews be exchanged at that time. The passes and the identity papers that the Jews had were replaced, and I want to know what office managed and carried this out ?

DR. PELKMANN: There is one question I should like to ask. The witness is now being asked about Riga, and this identity card is supposed to have been found on a dead person in Riga.

COLONEL SMYRNOW: Riga is only the place where the document was found. I am not interested in Riga as such.

WITNESS: The identity card shows that it was issued by the police president's office of Berlin. I therefore conclude that the exchange of these identity cards was carried out by the State Police administration.

BY COLONEL SKYRNOW:

Q. One final question concerning the two documents I submitted. Both the documents bear a stamp which says "Evacuated". Who furnished this stamp ?

A. This stamp does not show this because it does not bear any other designation. I imagine it was stamped by the transports of Eichmann who carried this action through.

Q. Did an agent of Eichmann manage and carry this through, or was it the Order Police or the State Police ?

A. I don't know who made up this transport.

Q. Witness, all three possibilities are given that it was.

A. It was either the Order Police, State Police, or a Deputy of Eichmann's.

COLONEL SMYRNOW: Thank you. I have no further questions.

BY LT HARRIS:

Q. I have just a few questions, if the court please.

When you were a member of the Jewish Committee of the SD, to whom did you pass your reports ?

A. The official channels were as follows:

From the Jewish committee, the reports went to the Chief of Office. From the Chief of Office to the Chief of the SD Main Office, Central Office Heydrich, and from there the question was decided upon as to whether the question was to be submitted to Himmler or not.

Q. These reports carried by the SD were used by Heydrich in developing the policy to be pursued by the Security police and SD, you know that don't you?

A. Yes.

Q. And the SD gathered this information, passed it on to Heydrich, and if use was made of it, very likely Heydrich passed it on back down to the Gestapo, didn't he ?

A. That is possible if Heydrich ordered a copy to be sent to an office of the Gestapo.

Q. And the Gestapo was the office that Heydrich used to carry out political control, wasn't it ?

A. Yes.

Q. And this arrangement was naturally closed after Heydrich became chief of the Security Police and SD in 1936 ?

A. There was no close cooperation in the lower channels, but in the higher offices there was merely an amalgation.

H0940-0120

Q. And the final amalgamation took place in 1939 when you were in Danzig, didn't it ?

A. Yes.

Q. You said that your Jewish committee of the SD recommended to Heydrich that the Jewish problem in Germany be solved by immigration, didn't you ?

A. Yes.

Q. And you, of course, realized that to require all of the Jewish people in Germany to leave would require a certain amount of coercion, didn't you ?

A. To this I should like to say that by the legislation carried out in the Third Reich, the position of the Jew in Germany had incapable

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ofsolving. As a result, the entire Jewish population of Germany tended to leave Germany. The realization of this trend was opposed by the fact that the Jews who wished to leave Germany could only take along a very small part of their property, and personal belongings, and this was really the nucleus of the immediate problem.

Q And your suggestion to Heydrich was, in effect, that these restrictive measures against the Jews should be increased so as to get them to immigrate?

A No, our suggestion was that the formalities required for immigration of Jews be shortened, that the time for them be shortened, and that a half-way satisfactory solution be found inregard to the property that the Jews would be allowed to take with them. For this reason, the so-called Central Office for Jewish Immigration was founded in Vienna in 1938. By shortening the time and the formalities of immigration of Jews, this Central Office managed the immigration of 120,000 Jews within a very short time.

Q Now, Heydrich was, of course, the spokesman of the Security Police and SD, wasn't he?

A Yes, certainly.

Q And you carried out his directives?

A Yes.

Q What was the Kultur Gemeinde?

A The Kultur Gemeinde or the Kultur Judische?

Q That is the way it is stated here.

A The term "Kultur Gemeinde" is unknown to me. I know the term Kultur Judische.

Q What is the Kultur Judische?

A Such a committee existed in Vienna and the Jews who adhered to the Mosaic faith were included.

Q And you thought that what you should do in Germany, your recommendation to Heydrich was that you should get the Jews to leave Germany in the same manner that the commission in Vienna handled theimmigration of the Jews from Austria, is that right? I am not speaking of you personally, but of the recommendation.

H0940-0122

A At the time these suggestions were made to Heydrich, I was no longer in Berlin. I only heard of them.

Q Well, what then were you referring to when you gave your direct testimony?

A The suggestions for simplification of formalities concerning Jewish immigration were begun in 1937, but were put into a concrete form in 1938.

Q I think I willread to you what your chief, Heydrich, said about your methods of getting the Jews out of Germany under the chairmanship of Field Marshal Goering, on 12 November 1938, being an extract from document 1816-PS, page 19 of the English translation. This document says, "In spite of the elimination of the Jews from the Economic Life, the main problem, namely, to keep the Jew out of Germany, remains. May I make a few proposals to that effect?" Then he goes onto make some proposals and he has this to say, speaking of the situationin Vienna.

A Through the Jewish Kultur Gemeinde or Kultur Judische commissioner, we extracted a certain amount of money from the rich Jew who wanted to immigrate. By paying this amount and an additional sum in foreign currency, they made it possible for a number of poor Jews to leave. The problem was not to make the rich Jew leave, but to get rid of the Jewish mob."

That does not sound as though Heydrich, in 1938, was very much concerned about alleviating the condition of the Jew so as to make it easier for them to immigrate, does it?

A Apart from the tone of Heydrich that is found in this document, I should say that his policy of subsidizing poor Jews and thus enabling them to immigrate would, on the contrary, speak forhim.

Q That is providing the rich Jew furnished the subsidy?

A Yes.

Q Let's pass on to page 21 of this document and we will see whether

H0940-0123

this is consistent withwhat you say theposition of the SD and Heydrich was at that time. Here is another thing that Heydrich said:

"As an additional measure, I would propose to withdraw from the Jews all personal papers, such as permits and drivers' licenses. No Jew should be allowed toown a car, neither should he be permitted to drive because in that way he will endanger German life. By not being permitted to live in certain districts, he should be further restricted to move about so freely. I say the Royal Square is not to be entered any more within a certain radius by a Jew. The same would go for establishment of culture, border fences, military installations. Furthermore, like Minister Dr. Goebbels has said before, exclusion of the Jews from public theaters, movie houses, andso forth. . ." and he goes on.

That does not sound like any easing condition of the Jews by Heydrich or the SD, does it?

A Not an alleviation in the position of the Jews, by no means.

Q Or, as a matter of fact, you know that if these poor Jews were caught violating one of those absurd restrictions, it was the Gestapo who sent them to the concentration camp, wasn't it?

A Yes. As I testified before, Heydrich was especially severe concerning the Jewish question, and always expressed this by marginal notices in his reports.

LT. HARRIS: I want to ask you a few questions about this matter of knowledge of the program for the biological extermination of the Jews.

CAPT. TUBRIDY: Can we take a recess here?

LT. HARRIS: Yes, it would be a very good time.

(The commission recessed.)

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H0940-0125

Q. I want to be perfectly clear about this : You have testified as to a limited number of people, do you mean you knew about the order for the biological extermination of the Jews ?

A. Yes.

Q. Now are you referring to the biological extermination of the Jews in general or are you referring merely to the limited functions of the Eichmann group ?

A. I can only testify as to Eichmann's division and the tasks that this division had.

Q. Well you knew that the Gestapo, the section of the Gestapo headed by Eichmann only had one portion of the extermination program of the Jews, didn't you ?

A. Yes.

Q. Now this limited order about which you have testified, you received knowledge of in August, 1942 ?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, just briefly, what was this order and who issued it ?

A. As far as I remember the order I quoted it on the 3rd of January, but if you wish me to I can repeat it.

Q. It is necessary that you repeat it because it places a limitation upon your testimony here today and I think we should have it in the record.

A. The order which Eichmann showed me at the last time ran about as follows :

"The Fuehrer has ordered the final solution of the Jewish problem and I entrust the execution of this to the Chief of the Security Police and SD, and the Chief of the Economic Administration Central Office (Chief of the Concentration Camp Division). Not to be included in the final solution are Jews capable of working as far as they can be used in the work of the concentration camps. Report is to be made to me continually on the execution of thir order ?"

And that was approximately the contents of this order.

H0940-0126

Q. Now that isn't what we are talking about. We are not talking about the final solution of the Jews in general. We are talking about this particular order as passed down to you through Eichmann ?

A. Yes.

Q. Now as I understand it, Hitler passed the order to Himmler and Himmler passed the order to Heydrick subsequently to Kaltenbrunner and then to Mohler, and then to Eichmann, and Eichmann finally told you about it ?

A. Yes, that is how it was.

Q. So, of course, you don't know, you couldn't possibly know what other persons Hitler may have told about this order of Heydrick or Mohler in any case ?

A. No, I can only testify to the people about whom I know.

Q. But you do know by reason of the wording of the order that at least one other department of the SS had knowledge of this order, namely the WVST?

A. Yes.

Q. And, of course, necessarily the Commandant of all extermination centers had to know about it ?

A. The personnel within these camps certainly.

Q. And, of course, Auschwitz was not the only extermination center, was it ?

INTERPRETER: There is evidently a mis-translation. I translated "The personnel of the camps", and the witness said:"The circle of persons of these camps."

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: Now have you the last question Reporter ?

REPORTER: Yes. (Question is read to the witness)

WITNESS: As I have heard from Eichmann there were further such camps in the vicinity of Lublin.

BY LIEUTENANT HARRIS:

Q. Do you know the names of Gunter or Maidenech ?

A. I learned of these names only during this trial. I always only heard of camp Maidenach and of Gunther.

Q. Now Eichmann told you when he read you this order that he was going to let only you and I think it was Gunther know about it, didn't he?

A. Yes.

Q. And you found out a couple of months later Eichmann had told several other people as a matter of fact, didn't you?

A. Yes, and I believe the occasion was a meeting in November of 1942 with Eichmann in Berlin.

Q. And as a matter of fact even though you had been threatened with being placed in a concentration camp or even death if you dared to utter a word about this great secret, you yourself divulged the secret as time went on, didn't you?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, who did you tell?

A. I spoke about this order to the Deputy of the Joint Camps at Bratislava, Milton Steiner his name was, and in 1944 in Budapest I spoke with Dr. Kassner, also a representative of the Joint Distribution Committee.

Q. Are those the only people you talked to about this in the Joint Distribution Committee?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, the joint distribution committee was a Jewish committee set up to try to save the lives of these poor Jewish people, wasn't it?

A. Yes.

Q. And when you spoke to Dr. Kassner about this he already knew Auschwitz was an annihiliation center, didn't he?

A. Yes.

Q. Did he tell you where he had obtained that information?

A. For the first time I spoke to Steiner at Bratislave in 1943. I knew that Steiner had gathered his information from Jewish refugees from Poland who had fled from Slovakia and had told him of events in Auschwitz.

Q. In other words, Jewish people who were taken to Auschwitz knew, of course, that a large part of them would be exterminated there? You were at

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Auschwitz?

A. I can't answer this question for certain but I have to allow the possibility that it is true.

Q. And some of these, when they got to Auschwitz, some of them were put into work camps and some of them escaped and told their stories and it spread like wild fire throughout Jewery in Europe and finally reached this man Steiner you have told us about, that is perfectly obvious, isn't it?

A. It might have been the knowledge as to the events was restricted in Jewish circles too. I asked Steiner at that time as to where he had gathered his information. He said he personally had spoken to refugees from the camps around Auschwitz, and I believe joined the Joint Distribution Committee and made up a report on these reports.

Q. You know that the Jewish people in Slovakia, for example, were so well acquainted with what fate lay in store for them if they were seized and transported, that they would hide among the farms and in the fields in order to avoid being taken, don't you?

A. A distinction has to be made between the different periods. In 1942 this was not common knowledge among the Jews but in 1944, however, I believe this knowledge was pretty common.

Q. I mean when was it you talked to Steiner?

A. In 1943.

Q. Now you knew that the Joint Distribution Committee was passing this knowledge that it had acquired outside Germany to Switzerland and the rest of the world, didn't you?

A. Yes.

Q. And, of course, that information was widely publicized in all of the other nations of the world?

A. That is what I assume.

Q. And one of the sections of the SD, Amt 6, the task of which was to obtain foreign intelligence, wasn't it?

A. Yes.

H0940-0128

H0940-0129

Q. You don't for a minute doubt that Amt 6 picked up this publicized information abroad that Germany was exterminating Europe's Jewry, do you?

A. I cannot say because I cannot judge the conditions with Amt 6.

Q. Well you testified that this extermination program was officially opposed by Schellenberg?

A. No, I only said that there were differences as to certain things between these two. May I add to this?

Q. Yesterday, according to my notes, you said that Eichmann was officially opposed by Schellenberg. Now we are not interested in personal differences, but what were the official differences?

A. Yes, official things. I heard from Eichmann that Schellenberg had occasionally employed Jews in his intelligence department. And Eichmann repeatedly tried to have these Jews removed or to give Schellenberg difficulty for having employed these Jews, and these were the reasons for their differences.

H0940-0130

Q Well you don't think for a moment, do you, that the SD with it's vast intelligence net work, both inside and outside Germany, particularly in the occupied territories where these enormous crimes were being committed, did not obtain knowledge of it, do you?

A It depends in what direction the intelligence work is being carried on. The SD had orders to work according to certain lines.

Q Now who else did you divulge this knowledge to, other than the names you have mentioned?

A I spoke to some of the members of Eichmann's committee about whom I knew had already been informed of this by Eichmann.

Q These are persons in addition to those you named this morning?

A No, they are included in this group.

Q Now, how about Dr. Geschke, did you ask Dr. Geschke about this order? Do you think he knew about it?

A Personally, I never spoke to Dr. Geschke about this order. I don't know whether Eichmann spoke to him or not.

Q Well, who is Dr. Gesche and what did he have to do with the removal of the Jews and their extermination from Hungary

A Dr. Geschke was the Chief of the Security Police and SD in Hungary. During the time Dr. Geschke was employed down there, Eichmann, together with his special command, was at Budapest.

Q And this was the command that rounded up the Jews and sent them up to Auschwitz?

A That was carried out by the Hungarian Police. Eichmann had kept contact with the Hungarian Police and had them carry out this action.

Q Well how many men did Eichmann take down there to Hungary to help on this task of rounding up Jews in Hungary?

A The members of the Eichmann commanders in Hungary are mentioned by name on the diagram I submitted.

H0940-0131

Q Now just what was the function of this Einsatz group of about 800 members which was organized under the leadership of Geschke to which you referred in your interrogation?

A This Einsatz group made up the personnel of the Chief of the Security Police and the SD in Hungary.

When the Germans entered Hungary this group was known as the Einsatz group, the Einsatz action group for Hungary, and later, April 1943, this group was changed into the surveillance of the Chief of Security Police and SD in Hungary.

Q Now this group furnished the Waffen SS guards that took over as the troop transports reached the border?

A The guard battalion of the Security Police and SD in Budapest was set up at the end of March or April, 1944.

Q Yes, and the Waffen SS men who were attached to Geschke organization were the guards which were used.

A Yes.

Q Now what did Dr. Merten know about this program of extermination and removing the Jews from Greschke.

A Personally I never spoke to Dr. Merten concerning the extermination of the Jews. I only spoke to him about their evacuation to the Eastern Territory.

Q And Dr. Merten was the Chief of the Military Administration down in Saloniki, wasn't he?

A Yes.

Q And, of course, if these people were just going to be resettled naturally they would take along all of their personal effects, even if they couldn't take their large movable objects, didn't they?

A Yes, or a certain percentage as far as I know. Brunner was the man who managed these evacuations and his orders were that people could take along a certain per-cent of their personal effects.

Q Now, we are talking about a matter of common knowledge, the military transport command furnished freight cars used for th transport of the Jews from

H0940-0132

Greece, didn't it?

A. Yes.

Q. And as a matter of fact in that particular evacuation, not only did these poor Jews not take any of their movable belongings, but actually all of their cash and valuables were taken away from them before they left?

A. Cash and gold was taken away from them, I believe. Brunner issued an order that each man was allowed to take 100 pounds of luggage along.

Q. And all of this property, all of their cash and valuables and everything else that was left was turned over to the military administration, wasn't it?

A. Yes.

Q. It was pretty hard, and Dr. Merten, under those circumstances, did believe that the Jews were just going to be sent to some other community where they were going to re-establish their customary mode of life?

A. It is very difficult to answer that question. I don't believe that Dr. Merten troubled himself very much about this question. At any rate he never asked me about it.

Q. Now how about this fellow Abromeit. Did you ever talk to him about the deportation of Jews?

A. Yes.

Q. Did he know about the extermination program?

A. Yes.

Q. You didn't mention it this morning. I just wanted to be sure.

A. Yes, I mentioned him yesterday.

Q. Now how about the Standartefuehrer Plobel, did you know about him, Plobel?

A. I suppose that he knew of it.

Q. Why do you suppose he knew about it if you didn't mention him this morning?

A. He was a member of Eichmann's personal circle of friends. He had also special missions entrusted to him, missions of a kind that I supposed he knew about the extermination program of the Jews.

H0940-0133

Q. He was the fellow that was in charge of these commandos that went around to try to cover up the murder that had taken place and the bodies that had been buried in various places through the East, wasn't he?

A. I don't know whether he personally covered up the murder of the Jews but I do know that he was in charge of commissions of secrecy, with regard to the executed Jews.

Q. And he went out and removed all traces of extermination by the Einsatz group and other executioner didn't he?

A. Yes, as far as I know.

Q. In other words, there were a whole lot of people involved in this extermination of European Jewry, there were all of the people who were members of the Einsatz group and all of the people that worked for Eichmann and special people that went around covering up traces of executions and all of their helpers, such as the various Gestapo officials, who might be called upon to furnish help from time to time. All of these people had knowledge of this to a greater or less degree, did n't they?

A. The commandos who participated in the final solution were relatively small. I don't know what conditions prevailed with the Einsatz group.

Q. Now getting back to the question of Hungary, now in these collecting camps, Eichmann sent his own commissioners in there to organize transports, didn't he?

A. These transports were organized by the Hungarian police. Agents of Eichmann had been assigned to the Local Hungarian Police authorities in order to report on the correct procedure of these transports and to be able to assist the Hungarian Police officers and give advice.

Q. Well these men were members of the Gestapo, weren't they?

A. For the greater part they were members of Eichmann's Committee.

Q. And Eichmann's Committee was a Gestapo Committee, wasn't it?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, of course, I suppose when you had a big round-up in some country, there were quite a number of Jews who escaped or were not apprehended isn't that true?

H0940-0134

A. Surely.

Q. And whose task was it after that to arrest such Jews.

A. In the case of Hungary the Hungarian police and in Slovakia the Slovakian police.

Q. Well as a matter of fact the responsible agency was the regional Gestapo office, wasn't it?

A. In the case of Slovakia, there was no Gestapo office.

Q. Well, where there was a Gestapo office, it was the responsibility of the Gestapo?

A. Usually this took place in cooperation with the police of the country concerned.

Q. Yes, undoubtedly the police of the country concerned reported these Jews who had been fortunate enough to escape and turn them over to the Gestapo who arrested them and sent them on their way to the concentration camps?

A. That is possible.

Q. Now I want to show you a document. I think you have all seen this document, though you may not be

H0940-0135

familiar with it, which the Gestapo office generally used in connection with these special tasks. This is a hauf bo k for the year 1943 and it is document L-318, USA 495, and this is a register maintained by a local Gestapo office in a town called Tomashek, Poland. Now if you will look at this document, you will see that there are entries here giving the names of the persons arrested, the grounds for the arrest, and the disposition of the person arrested. Take for example, I call your attention especially to entry 286-, 287 and 288. Now, you see they refer to three different Jewish people, and what is the ground upon which they were arrested by the Gestapo according to this register?

A Yes.

Q What?

A And the reason is a Jew, because they were Jewish.

Q Now you will notice over here in the "disposition column" that these particular Jews were shot or otherwise killed by the Gestapo?

A Yes.

DR. PELKMANN: I have an objection. I don't know whether he saw that they shot. Here it says "shot" once and once here it says "shot", and it says here: "Arrested by the Security Police", not by the Gestapo, and the Security Police consist of the Gestapo as criminal police. I should like to question this witness in so far as his testimony concerning this book, if he concerned himself officially with this book, or if he has carried any similar books in a similar capacity?

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: These questions, if the Commission please, are by way of foundation to a further question. The witness has testified as to his knowledge of the participation of the Gestapo with the Eichmann group.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: I believe it to be admissible.

BY LIEUTENANT HARRIS:

Q And now I wish to call your attention to an entry. This is No. 363, and you will see it involves a Jew arrested by the Security Police of Tomashek, and what is the ground upon which this Jew was arrested?

DR. PELKMANN: I have an objection. The witness is not answering the questions from his own personal knowledge. He is reading the answers from a

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book which the Prosecutor might well read himself.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: The witness has indicated he has knowledge of the Gestapo and the SD and other organizations about which he is being questioned. He is now being submitted a roster which is a roster of arrests made by the Gestapo and the causes of arrest. I think it is perfectly apparent he is completely competent to be able to testify with regard to this matter.

DR. PELKMANN: If he says that he knew anything about these matters indicated in this book, if he said that he handled them, the questions may be admissible.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Objection over-ruled. You may continue, Lt. Harris.

BY LIEUTENANT HARRIS:

Q What is the ground upon which this Jew was arrested, as shown by this register?

A It says here at that time the Jews were apprehended outside of the Ghetto.

Q And what was the disposition made of the Jew who committed that crime?

A On the 18th of March, 1943, this Jew was transferred to the Concentration Camp at Auschwitz.

Q All right, I have one more question. Here is case No. 505, and what is the reason he was arrested and where was he sent?

A It says under the current column that the SS men caught him and he was sent to Auschwitz on the 18th of March, 1943.

Q Now, if you will look through the rest of this book you will see that some people were sent to other camps such as Gross Rosen, do you know what kind of a camp Camp Rosen was?

A No.

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Q Well, now, don't you believe that if the Gestapo was sending people, Jews that they apprehended to Auschwitz rather than Gross Rosen or some other concentration camp, that these Gestapo officers must have had knowledge of the kind of camp they were sending these people to.

DEFENSE COUNSEL FOR GESTAPO: I would like to make an objection. The witness can scarcely know about the thoughts of the Gestapo, inasmuch as he also says he has never been there.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: These questions are reasonable. Objection overruled. Please continue.

WITNESS: I suppose that the officers concerned with instructions as to which people were to be sent to Auschwitz and which people were to be sent to Rosen, I myself do not know what went on. I personally never worked in a Gestapo office or Gestapo regional office.

BY LIEUTENANT HARRIS:

Q Well, now, one of the reasons you have been cross-examined, and I say this in order to put you on your guard, is that your credibility is a very important factor. You know that and you know what it means to testify under oath?

A Yes.

Q Now, several times today you have said here in this Court under oath that you personally visited Auschwitz concentration camp?

A Yes.

Q You have said that you visited Auschwitz on two separate occasions?

A Yes.

Q You have said that you actually went into the office of the Commander on one occasion?

A Yes.

Q And then on the other occasion you went and inspected the barracks, kitchen and maybe one or two other buildings?

A Yes.

Q Now that was inside Auschwitz concentration camp, wasn't it?

A This concentration camp site was exceedingly large.

Q Yes , but you were actually on the concentration camp at Auschwitz?

H0940-0138

A I suppose so.

Q You suppose so? You testified under oath that you were there.

A Yes.

Q And you are not mistaken about that? You are not confusing Auschwitz with some labor camp up there in Upper Silesia?

A Auschwitz was a concentration camp.

Q And you knew that at the time and you have known it all times since, haven't you?

A At that time Auschwitz was a concentration camp and not a labor camp.

Q You knew that Auschwitz was a concentration camp and you said you had been in this concentration camp on the 14th day of November, 1945, didn't you

A The 14th of November, 1945?

Q I mean on the 14th of November, 1945, just as today, you knew that Auschwitz was a concentration camp and that you had been at Auschwitz concentration camp?

A Yes.

Q And on the 14th day of November, 1945, you were interrogated by an officer of the U.S. army under oath, weren't you?

A I believe so.

Q And I have the record here, so there is no question about it, and on page 7 of this record, it says, as follows:

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"Q Did you visit any other of the concentration areas for Jews?

"A I was once at a labor camp near Auschwitz, not Auschwitz, but a camp that belonged to that area."

Was that question asked you and did you make that answer?

A May I make an explanation? I said before that this visit was in the vicinity of a Sloavk work camp and that on this occasion we visited a work shop and a laundry, places of work, which were situated outside of the camp property, and that is what I meant by my testimony at that time.

Q That is what you mean when you said this:

"I was once at a labor camp near Auschwitz, not Auschwitz."

A This camp was situated several kilometers distance from Auschwitz camp proper and we had to drive there by car.

Q And so when you testified today in response to the Soviet Delegation, that of all of these buildings were situated inside, you were not telling the exact truth, were you?

A I distinguished between two things, the kitchen and the barracks, which were situated in the vicinity of the Commanders Office and the carpenter work shop and laundry which lay outside the camp proper, and to which we had to drive by car.

Q Now under oath you state now that despite the testimony you have given that you never were inside Auschwitz itself, and you never went inside the Commandants office as you testified a while ago?

A Yes, I said expressly I was in the office of the Commandant.

Q And that was in Auschtitz on that first occasion?

A Yes, on my first visit to Auschwitz I spoke to von Thadden, and the casino of Auschwitz was inside the camp proper, but immediately opposite the railway station, a long way from the camp.

Q Well then you have never been in the camp in Auschwitz as you testified, have you?

A I don't understand your question.

Q Well I don't wonder you don't understand the question, but let me ask you this: Was the Commandant's casino at Auschwitz or at some other labor camp with another name?

H0940-0140

A The casino was situated in the community, in the village of Auschwitz, and that is where I went first.

Q Well I just want to call your attention to what you testified to on the 15th day of November, 1945, when you were asked this question under oath by Colonel Brookhart. He asked you this question:

"Q Did you visit --"

Before I ask you this question, I want to ask you another question: Now the place where this Commandant's office was, was that office at the place where the Slovaks were employed?

A In the Commandant's office?

Q Yes, that is the question.

A I saw no Slovaks in the Commandant's office.

Q Of course not. This is the question and this is your answer to the question:

"Q Did you visit Auschwitz?"

That is a clear question, isn't it? Can you answer that "yes" or "no". It is a clear question, isn't it?

A Yes.

Q And here is your answer:

"A No, I never visited Auschwitz itself but a labor camp in the vicinity of Auschwitz where Slovaks were employed."

Q That is the one you referred to earlier today that you visited?

A Yesterday, I mentioned it.

Q You were asked this question and that was your answer, wasn't it?

A Yes.

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: No further questions.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: Any examination on the part of defense counsel?

DR. PELKMAN: Yes.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: How long will it take.

DR. PELKMAN: Perhaps a little longer. May we ask the Prosecution to submit a copy of the documents of the records of the 14th and 10th of November, so that we can have a look at these documents?

LIEUTENANT HARRIS: The last ones? You mean the interrogation of the

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10th and 17th of November? I will furnish those to you.

DR. PELKMAN: Then I would like to ask that we may proceed tomorrow.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: About how long will it take?

DR. PELKMANN: About half an hour.

CAPTAIN TUBRIDY: We will adjourn until tomorrow.

(The Commission adjourned until 7 June 1946, at 1000 hours)

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the testimony of DIETER WISLICENY, taken on 6 June 1946.

MABEL A. IESSER
Reporter

ROSE W. COOK
Reporter

PIILANI A. AHUNA
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CERTIFIED TO:

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Commissioner

JOSEPH F. TUBRIDY
Commissioner